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THE BONAPARTES AND FRANCE.

THEY are cool hands, these Bonapartes; cool even to the verge of impudence, if not beyond it. If they do not succeed in all their enterprises it will be for lack of ability or fortune; not of assurance. Events in France, they think, afford them the prospect of another chance; and they come forward ready to profit by circumstances and to take advantage of the confusion and misery they have had the largest share in causing. No feeling of shame or of contrition troubles them; no principle of honour or of patriotism hampers their action. That personal and family benefits can be secured, is motive sufficient for a Bonaparte. To save their dynasty, they last year plunged into a war that has brought ruin upon France—ruin which the chief man among them knew *must* come of war with Germany. So much is confessed in the manifesto from Wilhelmshöhe—that is, from the ex-Emperor—an abstract of which we publish in another column. And now these same Bonapartes are content, if they can get the chance, to go back to power over the desolation their blundering has produced. Can mean, impudent selfishness go further than this?

But, bless you! the fault is not theirs; somebody else has done it all. The French army was unprepared for the war because the Emperor could not get his plans for its reorganisation carried out; the prejudices of the officers, and the opposition of the Ministers and the Assembly, stood in his way. So, in effect, he says. And yet the Emperor Napoleon was sole master in France; he had the entire control of the army in his own hands; the choosing of its officers "of high rank" rested with him; so did the selection of Ministers; and as for Parliament, the Senate was composed of creatures of his own nomination, and the Legislative Corps was elected, mainly, at his dictation. Moreover,

he had doubled the public debt of France and more than doubled the expenditure on her army. And yet he expects the world to believe that with pliant instruments, obsequious Chambers, and profuse—almost unlimited—means at his command, he was hindered by some occult influence from rendering the French army what it ought to have been, what he wished it to be, and what his Minister for War said it was—in a fit condition to engage in a deadly struggle with the forces at the command of the King of Prussia! The Emperor says he knew what the armies of Prussia and her German allies were; he knew, also, that his own forces were neither so well organised nor so ready to take the field as those of his adversary in July last; and yet he not only chose that particular epoch to provoke a contest, but permitted his War Minister, General Leboeuf, to delude France with the declaration that "she never was so well prepared for war" as then. If General Leboeuf deceived the Emperor as to the state of the army, then the Emperor was unfit for the position of sole controller of public affairs which he had assumed; if he was not deceived, then he committed the greatest crime of which a Sovereign can be guilty—that of voluntarily involving his people in a war which he knew they were not prepared to wage with a chance of at least holding their own, if not of winning victories. In either case, the Emperor stands self-condemned on the very plea he puts forth in justification. The shallowness and falsehood of the Emperor's defence, as well as its unblushing impudence, are palpable to all who look the facts in the face; but will the French peasantry, if they be called upon to vote a fresh plebiscite, either know the facts or look them in the face? That they will not, is evidently his ex-Majesty's hope; and hence his effort to fix the blame of defeat upon some one else: on the officers, the Ministers, the Chambers,

the Opposition, anybody but the right man—the Emperor himself.

But even more perfect in its cool impudence than the Wilhelmshöhe pamphlet of the Emperor is the letter addressed by Prince Napoleon to Jules Favre, on whom, as representing "the Men of September," it is sought to fix the whole responsibility of the evils that have overtaken France. Says Plon-Plon, "The Empire had faults, and, under its sway, France, up to Sedan, sustained defeats; you committed crimes, and have entailed disasters; and from you I demand a strict account." As demanding a strict account seems a favourite phrase with the Bonapartes—the Emperor employed it in another Wilhelmshöhe manifesto—it may be well to apply it to themselves, and demand, in the way of "strict account," whether the defeats and disasters of France, as well as the crimes of the Government of Defence (if committed at all) be not the legitimate results—nay, the inevitable fruits—of the faults of the Empire? Had the Empire not mismanaged the affairs of France, there would have been no opportunity for either the Government of Defence or the Commune to perpetrate crimes; had the Empire not plunged France into war at an inauspicious moment, on an insufficient pretext, and with an enemy known to be too powerful, she would never have incurred defeat and disaster. So the blame of everything that has happened to and in France since July, 1870, rests with the Bonapartes—defeats, disasters, crimes, and all. They set the ball a-rolling, and they cannot divest themselves of responsibility for the results at any point of its career which they may deem convenient. They must be held primarily answerable for the whole. No disclaimer—no amount of recrimination, no measure of vituperation—will serve their turn. They, chiefly, have ruined France; though, maybe, not alone they did it.



"FOGGY PHENOMENA."—(FROM THE PICTURE BY A. LEBOEUF, IN THE DUDLEY GALLERY.)



Others may have aided, but upon them and their policy rests by far the largest measure of blame. That is the verdict of logic. The Napoleonic pigeons come home to roost. And though the Bonapartes may hope to hoodwink ignorant French peasants—whom, by-the-way, the same Bonapartes have done much to keep ignorant, for their own purposes—they can deceive neither intelligent Frenchmen, observant foreigners, nor impartial historians, be they as impudently mendacious as they may.

Prince Napoleon asserts, and makes much of the assertion, that the Emperor could have obtained better terms from Bismarck after Sedan than Jules Favre has obtained now. That may be possible; but the question immediately occurs, Why did he not obtain them? Did he try; and, trying, fail? Or did he, as the world has heretofore understood, refuse to negotiate because he was a prisoner—thus adhering to the Napoleonic tactics of throwing responsibility upon others? Either way, the Emperor is again condemned out of the mouth of his cousin and advocate. Events have since proved that M. Jules Favre erred when he uttered the declaration "Not an inch of our territory; not a stone of our fortresses!" but, then, it is easy to be wise after the event; and when these words were spoken France, though beaten, was not crushed. There were still hopes of retrieving her reverses and maintaining her integrity; and so to hope was patriotic, if somewhat unwise. Moreover, M. Favre and his colleagues could not know, as the Emperor says he did, all the measure of France's weakness relatively to Germany's strength, while he did know that Frenchmen would not then have consented to dismemberment of the country; and therefore he is less blameworthy than it is sought to make him appear. At all events, he did try to obtain peace on what he thought honourable and reasonable terms. Did the Bonapartes make any such effort? Indeed, where were the Bonapartes after Sedan? Their chief was a captive, discredited at home, and either refusing to act, or refused permission to act, abroad. The Empress-Regent had fled before the turmoil in Paris—excusable in her flight, perhaps, but still a fugitive. Prince Napoleon had some time before disappeared from France—had gone to Switzerland or Italy (we forget which) "on urgent private affairs," as some said; to bespeak help, said others; to be out of harm's way, said a third party; but certainly not at hand to aid France when she most needed aid. While another member of the family, the amiable Prince Pierre, was busy stirring up insurrection and organising brigands in Corsica. That was how the Bonapartes met the crisis of September; and truly they are the parties to demand a "strict account" of the destinies of France, which they had deserted, from the men who at least did not shrink from danger, who boldly faced the difficulties of the hour, and did their best—unhappily without success—to retrieve the disasters the Bonapartes had brought upon France!

We know not what form of government may hereafter be adopted in France, or who may be called upon to assume the chief post in its direction. These are matters for the French people to decide. We can only hope that they may decide wisely; and, if they do, it seems to us that Napoleonic aspirations have small chance of realisation. If France must choose between the house of Bourbon and the house of Bonaparte, there need be but slight difficulty in deciding which to prefer, considering who are the men that will almost certainly represent the Bourbons and the Bonapartes respectively in the future—the Orleans Princes on the one hand, and the ex-Emperor and Plon-Plon on the other.

FOGGY PHENOMENA.

IN our notice of the charming little exhibition in the Dudley Gallery we referred to some of the half-humorous genre works which were so excellent and attractive a feature of the collection. We are able this week to produce one of them, which will recall too frequent a feature of London street light; recall also that wonderful subject the London Arab, the gutter child, the homeless gamin, whose courage, constancy, and spirit under hard hips that are absolutely appalling make us laugh and cry in the same breath. When the school board can settle the disputes of its several members, and begin to think about what is to be done with these "foggy phenomena," we shall hope for a place in some national gallery for such "pictures of the past" as that of Mr. Ludovici; but, at the present rate, the existing boys will have grown into costly criminals and paupers before that consummation is arrived at.

CHURCH AND DISSIDENT MINISTERS.—The first ordination held in Cornwall for 300 years was held at Truro on Sunday, when eight deacons and eleven priests were ordained. The Bishop, in the course of his address to the young ministers, stated that for his part he had no hesitation whatever in saying that he looked upon the ministers of every denomination in this country as true ministers of Christ. He knew no test by which their work could be tried which would not come to that result, because he saw that men under their ministry had accepted God's truth; that men under their teaching did live better lives; that men by their voices were awake out of slumber; he saw that there were those whom they had called and had brought near to his Master; and when he saw that the Lord had blessed their work, he could not doubt for one moment that their work had His approval, and that He had sent them.

GALLANT RESCUE FROM DROWNING.—On Friday week, about one o'clock, as the Heron, Woolwich steamer, was passing under London Bridge, and had proceeded about fifty yards on her course, a middle-aged gentleman was sitting on the taffrail smoking a cigar, when he suddenly fell overboard, and was observed struggling in the water, his head being at times under, and then only observed for a moment on the surface. The steamer was stopped and a life buoy thrown out, but if he observed it he was too weak to reach it. At this moment a powerful-looking young man divested himself of his shoes, and, without taking off his wideawake, mounted the parapet of the bridge and dived to the great depth below, and soon rising to the surface, swam to the rescue of the drowning man, whom he caught by the collar of his coat and held thus until some boats came off to the assistance of both. The daring rapidity of this extraordinary act of heroism was greeted with immense cheering, and when they were conveyed to the Swan Hotel at the foot of the bridge crowds of people followed them, the enthusiasm for the gallant preserver of life knowing no bounds. The police then ascertained that the gentleman who fell overboard was a Mr. Peters, who resides at the West End, and was going to Woolwich on business; and the young man who so promptly saved him was the person who goes by the name of Izzy, the trapeze performer, but whose real name is J. B. Johnson, of the Wellington Baths, Leeds, who came up to town to contend in the champion swimming match at Hendon on Saturday, and who was passing over the bridge at the time of the accident. It was some time before Mr. Peters could be made conscious that Johnson actually dived from the parapet to save him. He offered to amply compensate his rescuer, who declined to receive any reward. Johnson was victor in the champion swimming match at Hendon next day.

Foreign Intelligence.

FRANCE.

Paris is now tranquil, and strangers in great numbers are entering the city. The Hygienic Council of the Department of the Seine has made an official announcement that no epidemic now prevails in Paris, and that every precaution has been taken for the removal from the streets of all putrifying substances. Public attention is fixed on the proceedings of the Assembly relative to the restrictions on the Orleans Princes. Both from Paris and Versailles the announcement is made that directly the elections of the Orleans Princes are declared valid by the National Assembly, and the law banishing them from France is abrogated, they will send in their resignations, and abstain from every act calculated to weaken the authority of M. Thiers while he remains in power. It is rumoured that the Comte de Chambord is in Boulogne. Prince Napoleon is said to be preparing to offer himself as a candidate in Corsica for election to the Assembly.

The Ambassadors, Ministers, and Consuls are returning to their posts in Paris, and business was resumed on Monday in all the departments of the Bank of France.

The following changes in M. Thiers's Government have been officially announced:—M. Lambrecht to be Minister of the Interior; M. Lefranc, Minister of Agriculture; General Cissey, Minister for War; and M. Léon Say, Prefect of the Seine. General Leflo is to go as Ambassador to St. Petersburg. The newspapers unanimously approve the nomination of M. Léon Say as Prefect of the Department of the Seine.

M. Aubry, an agent of the "International Association" and treasurer of the Commune, has been arrested. The arrest is also announced of M. Paschal Grouzet, who, it is stated, had never left Paris; and an active search is being made for M. Félix Pyat. Shumacker, one of the murderers of Generals Lecomte and Clément Thomas, has been apprehended. Telegraphic wires connecting all the different districts of Paris, for the purpose of blowing up the city, are said to have been discovered in the sewers.

The obsequies of the late Archbishop of Paris and the other ecclesiastical hostages who were shot by the Commune were celebrated, on Wednesday, in Notre Dame, with great pomp.

According to an estimate in the *Vérité*, the recent destruction of property in Paris, including houses, furniture, securities, works of art, &c., is valued at eight hundred millions of francs. Merchandise to the amount of sixty millions of francs is also said to have been destroyed.

M. Louis Blanc has published a letter replying to some remarks of the *Figaro* respecting his silence with regard to the acts of the Commune. The purport of M. Louis Blanc's letter is that there is no necessity for an honest man to proclaim his abhorrence of arson and pillage.

A proposition is made by the *Figaro* that, in order to allure visitors to Paris, gambling-houses and public lotteries should be re-established there.

Nearly all the missing pieces of the Vendôme Column have been recovered. It is thought the column can be exactly restored.

Engineers have been surveying Montmartre and the Buttes Chaumont in Paris, which are to be converted into fortresses.

The Assembly has voted the sum of 1,053,000*fr.* for rebuilding M. Thiers's house, which the Communists destroyed.

Contrary to the advice of M. Thiers, the Commission appointed to consider the reorganisation of the French army has unanimously adopted the principle of compulsory military service for all Frenchmen.

The trial of the insurgents at Versailles commences with Assi. Many arrests are still being made in Paris. The prisoners at present kept at the Camp of Satory are about to be sent to New Caledonia. They will be conveyed in twenty transports, each carrying 1000 men.

The 1st Division of the Saxon Army Corps is withdrawing from the neighbourhood of St. Quentin towards Germany.

The 2nd Division is effecting a similar movement by way of Vervins and Mézières. At the offices of the Legitimist journals in the departments signatures are being obtained to an address which is to be presented to the Pope on June 16. The address terminates as follows:—"May France, restored and regenerated, soon lend once more the aid of her avenging arm to her oppressed Father!"

SPAIN.

The Committee on the Budget, at its sitting on Monday evening, discussed the proposition of Senor Cordeport demanding the postponement of the loan until after the vote on the Budget had been taken. Senor Moret, the Minister of Finance, opposed the motion, and declared that it would be made a Cabinet question. The motion was rejected by 16 votes against 8, and a Ministerial crisis was thus avoided.

PORTUGAL.

The Ministry having been defeated in the Chamber on the question of the Marine Department, the King, at the request of the Marquis d'Aosta, has resolved to dissolve the Chamber and call for fresh elections.

ITALY.

The Government has notified to the Powers the approaching transfer of the capital to Rome.

A despatch of Signor Visconti Venosta to Viscount Choiseul, French Minister at Florence, dated May 31, says:—"When I received your letter instructions of a most energetic character had already been given by the Minister of the Interior for the prevention of foreigners entering the kingdom from France without regular papers, and who should be unable properly to establish their identity. Measures for the surveillance of foreigners passing through Italy to other countries had also been taken. The posts on the frontier had been strengthened and fresh stations established. The French Government can reckon on the prompt and regular execution of the convention relative to the extradition of criminals, and I do not doubt that the escape of such criminals from the punishment they have deserved will be prevented."

GERMANY.

In the German Parliament last Saturday the bill for the incorporation of Alsace was finally adopted. It is now provided that the dictatorial power shall last till Jan. 1, 1873; but Prince Bismarck, who said that the Government would be able to deal more tenderly than Parliament with local and vested interests, remarked that even before 1873 he might be in a position to propose the admission of the Alsacians into the Federal Council, and the granting to them of their share in the Parliamentary legislation. The German Parliament is to be closed on the 15th inst., but the members will remain in Berlin to witness the entry of the troops, which is to take place on the following day. An important speech from the Emperor is expected.

The chiefs of the Dollinger party have decided, it is said, not to separate from the Church of Rome, but to confine their action to the non-recognition of the decree of the Ecumenical Council.

The Bank of Prussia is establishing branches in Alsace.

AUSTRIA.

In Monday's sitting of the Lower House of the Reichsrath, the Budget was brought up for discussion. Herr Franz Gross moved that the Estimates should not now be considered. Against this motion Herr Smolik made a speech declaring that the party he represented would support the Government, because they were convinced that a reaction on the part of the Government was not to be apprehended. Speeches were made for the motion by Herr Weigel and Herr Pleiner, and against it by Herren Ziskra, Meyerhofer, and Rechbauer. This motion, it is said, will not obtain a majority. Fifteen members of the Constitutional party have announced their intention of voting with the Right.

THE DANUBIAN PRINCIPALITIES.

The Chamber was opened, on Sunday, by Prince Charles in

person. His Royal Highness was received with great enthusiasm on entering the hall, and his Speech from the Throne was repeatedly interrupted by cheers.

THE UNITED STATES.

It is reported that the Bureau of Agriculture has received unfavourable accounts of the condition of the growing cotton crop, and that the area planted is much smaller than last year.

There was a terrible storm at Galveston on Saturday and Sunday last. A part of the city was submerged by the waters of the gulf, and many buildings were destroyed. No lives were lost.

CANADA.

Mr. Mackenzie, the leader of the Opposition in the Canadian House of Commons, delivered a speech strongly condemning the clauses of the treaty concluded at Washington affecting Canada, and said that in his opinion Parliament should reject them and take the consequence. The New Brunswick Government has appointed a delegation to confer with the Government of Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island, with a view to a united action to oppose the treaty.

INDIA.

The first company of the 19th Native Regiment has returned to Madras and been disbanded, in pursuance of the order of the Governor. This step has been taken in consequence of the insubordinate conduct of the regiment in February last when ordered to embark for Singapore.

The capture of Herat is confirmed. Yakoob Khan made a feigned attack, and, while the forces were drawn off from the city to repel him, another gate was opened from within. Several Amer chiefs were killed.

"THE HOUSE OF FRANCE."

As the French Monarchists fancy that there is a probability of the restoration of the Bourbons to the throne of France, some particulars regarding the present representatives of the two branches of the said House, who are understood to have fused their pretensions, may be of interest.

THE COUNT DE CHAMBORD.

On both sides can the Count de Chambord claim descent from the house of Bourbon. His father, the Duc de Berri, son of Charles X. and nephew of Louis XVIII., and his mother, the Duchesse, daughter of Francis I. of Naples, both traced their pedigree through six generations to Louis XIV. Hardly had the catastrophe of the Hundred Days permitted to the Bourbons a second and safe return to the thrones from which the revolution and its terrible child, Napoleon, had twice driven them, when the King of France looked about for an alliance by which the line of Bourbon Sovereigns might be maintained; and he chose, to mate with his nephew, the young, gracious, and ingenious Neapolitan Princess. Still a child in years, Caroline de Bourbon came to France in the summer of 1816, captivating people, nobility, and Monarch alike by the charm of her artless manners and her thoughtful refinement. The marriage was celebrated with high pomp in Notre Dame; but the Duke was not fated to see the fulfilment of his hopes, which were also those of France. He was assassinated on Feb. 13, 1820, more than half a year before his son, the present pretender, was born; and thus the Duke of Bordeaux, who saw the light on Sept. 29, 1820, has never known his father. In the year succeeding that of his birth, the popular gratitude for the security given to the Royal line, and the admiration felt for the Duchess, found vent in the subscription by which the Castle of Chambord, near Blois, was presented to the infant—whose name in exile has been taken from the building that has seen so little of its owner during fifty years. Reared in the most uncompromising adherence to the principles of the ancient monarchy—to the political assumptions and dogmas which had ruined the Bourbons before and were destined soon to ruin their cause again—the Count of Chambord acquired from his very infancy the belief in Divine right that has marked all his manifestoes as a pretender, and has, in more than one quarter, excited strong prejudice against his cause in the minds of many who wish to see monarchy restored in France. In 1830 the crisis came which the unlearning, unforgetting Bourbons of the Restoration had steadily prepared. The Press Ordinances set Paris in a flame of fury; the Three Days of July, unparalleled for bloodshed in 1848, or 1851, or 1871, sealed the doom of the old Monarchy. Charles X. fled from his capital to Rambouillet, and there he made a vain attempt to avert the imminent crash, at least from the fortunes of the house, by abdicating in favour of his grandson, to whom the title of Henry V. was given; the Duc d'Angoulême associating himself in the renunciation. But it was too late. Five days after that shadowy title had been conferred, the son of Philippe Egalité, the eldest member of the Orleans branch, mounted the throne as Louis-Philippe I.; and a few days later the Bourbons began their long wanderings in exile.

It would be of little interest to trace the Count of Chambord through the various scenes of his long exile, which has been chequered by few incidents of more than personal interest. In Scotland, where the fallen family of France for a time held their sad court at Holyrood—in Bohemia and Italy—finally in London, where, thirteen years after his brief and nominal reign, he proclaimed his pretensions to the crown, and received some distinguished Legitimist Deputies with all the forms of Royalty—the Bourbon heir resided, losing nothing of the prejudices and assumptions that had been implanted by his early training. The most memorable event bearing on his fortunes during this period was the romantic and courageous expedition of his mother, the Duchesse de Berri, to France in 1832. But neither at Marseilles, nor subsequently in La Vendée, was the adventurous lady successful in raising the standard of her son; and the discovery of her secret marriage—while she lay in the Castle of Blaye, a prisoner through the treachery of one of her agents—completed the failure and discredit of her ill-advised enterprise. In 1846 the Count married the daughter of the Duke of Modena, and took up his abode at the Château of Frohsdorf, not far from Vienna, whence now and then has issued a manifesto, to remind the world of the dormant Bourbon claim.

THE ORLEANS PRINCES.

Like the Count of Chambord, the head of the House of Orleans holds his position in virtue of heirship from his grandfather, with the additional feature of similarity, that in each case the father was cut off by a violent death. The eldest son of Louis Philippe and Marie Amélie, Ferdinand, Duke of Orleans, had served with valour and distinction at the siege of Antwerp, passed through several arduous campaigns in Algeria between 1835 and 1840, and much endeared himself to the French nation by his manly virtues and popular qualities, when he was killed by imprudently leaping from a runaway carriage in 1842. By his wife, a Princess of Mecklenburg-Schwerin, whom he had married in 1837, he left two sons—Louis Philippe, Count of Paris, born in 1838, who is now heir presumptive to the united Bourbon and Orleans inheritance, and to whom a son was born in 1869; and Robert, Duke of Chartres. Besides the Duke of Orleans, the "Citizen King" had four male children, all of whom survive, and have issue. First is the Duke of Nemours—the Prince to whom, in 1831, the crown of Belgium was offered, and for whom it was declined by his father. Next is the Prince de Joinville, now fifty-three years old—well-remembered in England for his devotion to the naval service—who brought back from St. Helena the remains of the great Napoleon, in 1840; Henry, Duke of Aumale; and the Duke of Montpensier, married in 1844—not without much disapprobation of French policy throughout Europe—to the sister of Queen Isabella. Of these, when the Orleans dynasty fell in 1848, the Duke of Aumale had developed most both of military and political capacity; having taken a prominent part in the Algerian war, and held the office of Governor of that hardly-won province. In these active, able, and enlightened men, and in their families,

BLACKFRIARS BRIDGE.—On Tuesday, at a meeting of the Court of Common Council, at Guildhall, an important report was brought up from the Hon. H. Estlin, the committee, by Mr. Hammack, the chairman. It referred to a large claim recently made against the Corporation in respect of the erection of the new bridge at Blackfriars. The report stated that tenders having been invited for the necessary works, the committee accepted the lowest—viz., that of Messrs. Thorn Brothers for the sum of £269,045, the contract containing the usual stipulations as to extras and omissions. The bridge was completed at the end of 1869, and by that time the contractors had received from the Corporation, on the certificates of Mr. Cubitt (the engineer), the sum, in all, of £309,695. The difference between that and the tendered price was owing to the completion of extra works. There was now owing to Messrs. Thorn a balance, after allowing for extras and omissions, of £7895 odd. The contractors, however, had brought an action against the Corporation to recover upwards of £100,000 over and above the sum paid; and the committee, who denied the liability, had paid into court the sum of £7895. The action had been set for trial, but the contractors had suggested that the whole dispute should be referred to an arbitrator. Mr. Hammack mentioned the case to the Court, and Mr. Estlin, for Mr. Thorn was for about £112,000, but that the committee had recognised their right to no other sum than £7895, which had been certified by the engineer. He added that, being determined to resist the claim, the committee wished to have the authority of the Court either to defend the action or to agree to the proposed arbitration. The Court referred the matter to the Bridge-House Committee with power to take any steps they might think desirable.

ILLUSTRATIONS OF THE FRENCH CIVIL WAR.

THE CANNON ON MONTMARTRE.

THE district of Montmartre has been prominent all through the late unhappy events in Paris. It was here that the Communique revolution began, by the attempt made by the authorities to seize the guns which the National Guard had stored there to be out of the reach of the Germans. But for the unlucky circumstance that these cannon had been

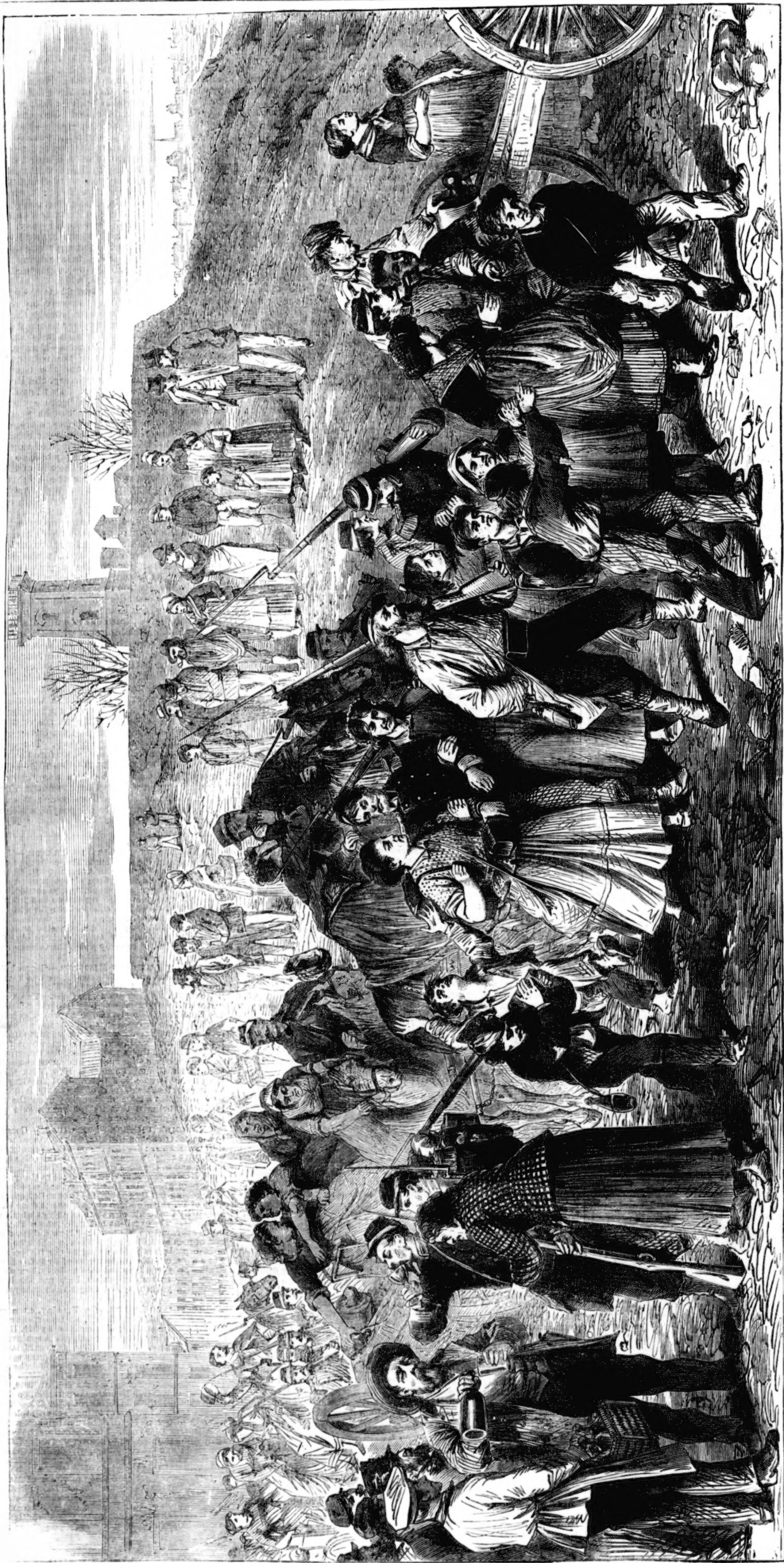
allowed to be carried off to Montmartre, it would have been unnecessary to attempt to recover possession of them; and the opportunity for revolt, as well as the provocation to it, would not have occurred. Better for the French Government to have rigidly interpreted the convention with Count Bismarck, and have allowed the Germans to carry off these guns as part of the spoils and trophies of war, than to have left them in the hands of the National Guard, to become bones of contention and instruments of civil strife. We are more immediately concerned, however,

with the removal of a portion of these cannon from Montmartre than with the storing of them up there. This occurred when, the Versailles troops having made their way into Paris and turned the insurgent position on Montmartre, it became evident not only that the guns were no longer safe there, but might be employed with greater effect in other quarters. Orders were accordingly given for their removal, and the populace, still high of heart, set about performing the work in good earnest. The excitement was considerable, and by dint of energetic action several

of the pieces were rescued from capture and taken to other districts, where they were once more used to carry on the direful business of civil strife.

BURNING OF THE PALAIS DE JUSTICE.

Among the public buildings of Paris which have suffered most is the Palais de Justice, the burning of which is represented in our Engraving. The Palais de Justice is (or was) a vast pile, which included the Sainte Chapelle, numerous courts of law, and the prison of the Conciergerie.



THE FRENCH CIVIL WAR: INSURGENTS REMOVING GUNS FROM MONTMARTRE.

Anciently the site of palaces inhabited by the Kings down to Francis I., afterwards the meeting-place of the Parliaments of Paris, it had been repaired and rebuilt since 1831, at a cost of nearly £1,000,000. The courts of law open from the vast but inelegant Salle des Pas Perdus, which answers to our Westminster Hall. One of these courts was the Chamber of the Tribunal Révolutionnaire, and commented by a small door with the Conciergerie Prison. In the precincts of the Palais stands, comparatively little injured, the Sainte Chapelle, an exquisite specimen, on a small scale, of the best style of Gothic

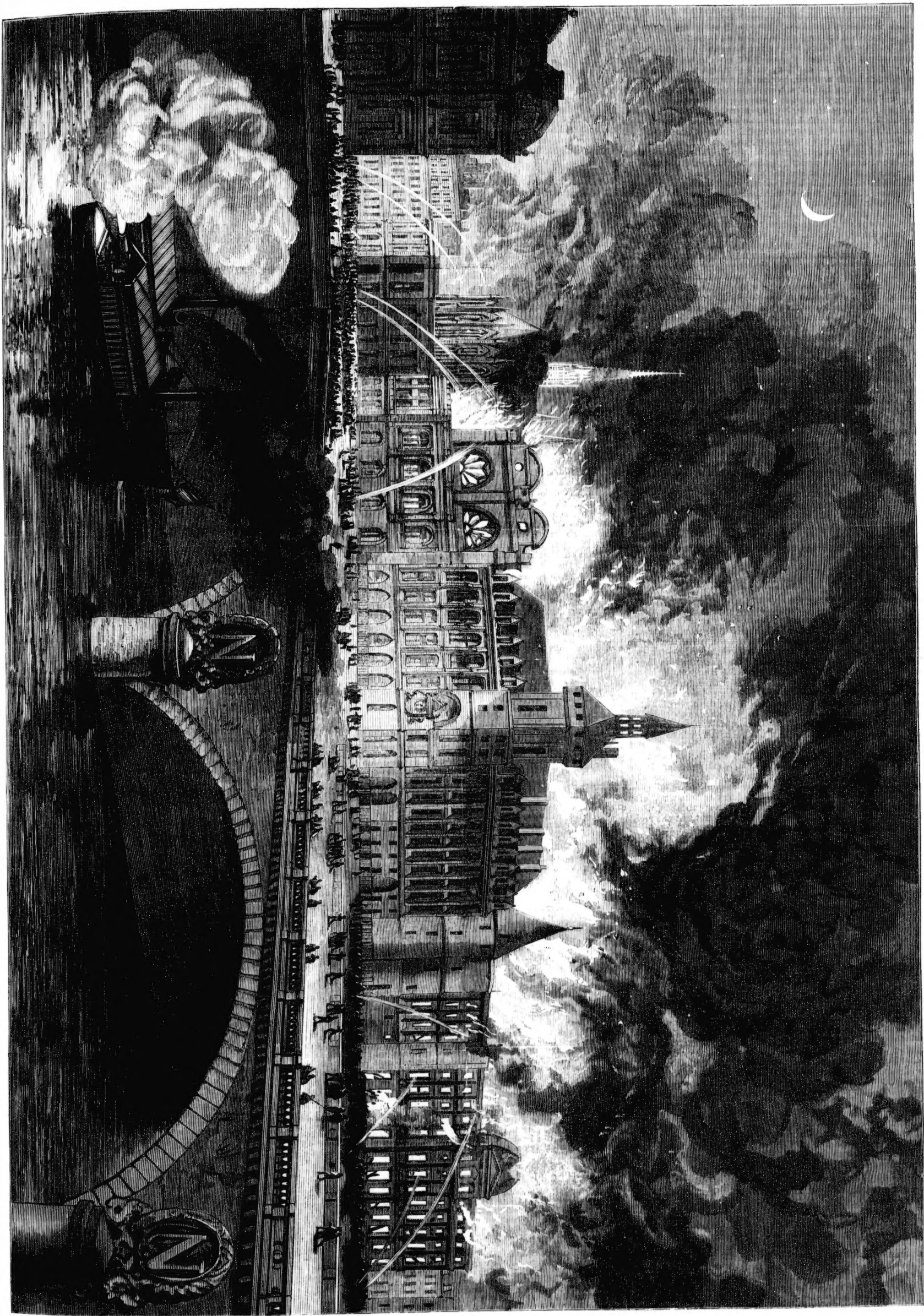
architecture. The Chapelle was finished in 1248, having been built by Pierre de Montreuil to enshrine the thorns of our Lord's crown and the wood of the Cross, relics bought for an immense sum from the Emperor Baldwin by St. Louis, and carried through the streets of Paris by the King barefoot. In 1791 the Sainte Chapelle became a club, then a corn store, then a record office. Louis Philippe commenced its restoration, and up to the fall of the Empire about 2,000,000 had been spent upon it. It is in two stories, corresponding with the floors of the ancient palace; the lower chapel or crypt was intended for the servants,

the upper, on a level with the Royal apartments, for the Royal Family. The glass is exquisite, and the statues of the twelve Apostles date from the thirteenth century, and are admirable specimens of the art of their age. A small square hole to the south of the nave communicates with a room in which Louis XI. was wont to sit and hear mass without fear of assassination.

FIGHTING AT ASNIERES.

The succession of fights which took place outside Paris between the

forces of the Commune and those of the Government at Versailles have been so overshadowed by the stupendous events that have occurred since as to be in a measure forgotten. It will therefore be unnecessary to say more of the Engraving on page 365 than that it represents one of those skirmishes, the scene being in the vicinity of the suburb of Asnières, and close to the railway bridge across the Seine to the north-west of the city. The fight resulted, as most others did, in the repulse of the Communists and the advance of the Regulars one more step towards the object of their endeavours.



THE DESTRUCTION IN PARIS: BURNING OF THE PALACE OF JUSTICE.

INNER LIFE OF THE HOUSE OF COMMONS.—NO. 405.

SUPPLY.

On Thursday, June 1, the House, having enjoyed three days' rest, assembled again. So backward is the business of the Session that our inexorable master, the Prime Minister, could allow us no more than three days' holiday. The business of the night was Supply. The first night after the Whitsuntide holidays is always devoted to Supply. One reason for this arrangement is that Government at this time of the year always urgently wants money. But there is another, and perhaps a more potent, reason felt, but not avowed, by the Government—to wit, on the first night after the holidays very few members come to the House; and, as money votes are always passed more rapidly in a small than in a large House, Supply is put down for that night. Of course, Government officials do not openly avow this, nor even talk about it, except *sotto voce*, amongst friends. Success justified this crafty arrangement on Thursday. On the paper there stood thirteen motions "on going into Supply." There was, then, enough work here to occupy all the night, and more than the night; and, if all those who gave these notices had been there, her Majesty's Government would certainly have got no money. But very few of them were there, and some who were present could not move their resolutions. "Why not?" Well, we will give the reason why. Said Mr. Speaker, when the proper time came, "The question is, that I do now leave the chair; since which an amendment has been moved that all the words after 'That' be left out, in order to insert 'An humble and dutiful address be presented to her Majesty praying that she will be graciously pleased to direct her Commissioner of Woods and Forests to restore Hamilton-gardens to the park, and to the unrestricted enjoyment of all classes of her Majesty's subjects.' The question which I have to put is, that the words proposed to be left out—viz., 'I do now leave the chair'—stand part of the question." Whereupon the House divided, and decided that the words proposed to be left out should stand part of the question; and the House having thus decided, of course nobody that night could move another amendment. Members might have talked still on the main question that "I do now leave the chair;" for that question had not been settled, only the amendment to it. But there were few members in the House; for when the division was over most of the members rushed off to dinner; those who remained were not disposed to talk; so the original question, "that I do now leave the chair," was put and carried nem. con., and, to the great joy of the Government, the House got into Supply soon after seven o'clock. "Good! we shall have five hours to work at the Estimates, and get lots of votes." Such was the thought, uttered or unexpressed, of the whips and other Ministers; and they were not disappointed, for by twelve o'clock twenty-nine votes had been passed.

SUPPLY IN DANGER.

But the Government tactics were very near "ganging a-gley." About nine o'clock a young member popped in with head full of mischief—as it too often is, if of nothing else—and, seeing how few members were present, rose, and moved that the House be counted. "What! count out Supply! What mischievous folly!" exclaimed the Government whips as they ran out of the House to dispatch their scouts to the dining-room, library, &c., to summon all the stragglers to the rescue. Meanwhile the bells had already sounded the alarm. Very anxious for the next three minutes were the Government whips, as they might well be; for it was known that there were few members about, and it was doubtful whether the requisite forty men could be got together, and if that could not have been done a night would have been lost. Mr. Glyn stood at the door, with anxiety in his face, counting the members as they slowly dribbled in—"thirty-six," "thirty-seven," "thirty-eight." Then there was a pause, an awful pause. "By Jove! we shall lose the House." But here comes another, and another. Good! that makes forty. There were, however, when Mr. Dodson counted, forty-two; and so the House was saved. It was a narrow escape; and, to prevent a recurrence of the danger, a messenger was dispatched to bring up from the public offices or the clubs a few more Liberal members. No further attempt, though, was made to count out. The mischievous young fellow who made the motion, as soon as he had fired his shot, departed, thinking, no doubt, that it was great fun thus to thwart the Government. For such people there are in the House, readers—troublesome young Conservative swells mainly, irrepressibly given, in Session or out of Session, to pranks and gambols. Successors to those Tom-and-Jerry sparks who, fifty years ago, used to tear off knockers, remove signboards, upset watchboxes, &c. Very pleasant fellows, no doubt, at the right time and in the right place; but here in the House troublesome, mischievous, and even pestilent when, late at night, or rather early in the morning, they come down, full of life—and perhaps something else—to "finish" with "a lark."

MR. WHITE'S SPEECH.

On Friday night week "Supply" was again the first "order of the day." By an order of the House, passed a few years ago, Supply must head the list of orders on Friday nights. The Government, though, rarely get any money on those nights. Supply, indeed, is not placed first mainly to this end, but rather to give private members an opportunity to bring forward their motions and theories, and get them discussed and ventilated, and, if possible, adopted. Very few, though, are adopted—not one in a hundred. They are talked about, and then withdrawn or defeated. Still, these discussions are exceedingly useful, and some of them very interesting. For example, on this occasion Mr. White, of Brighton, moved a very important motion—to wit, that it is inexpedient to make provision for the reduction of the National Debt by an annual charge upon the Imperial revenue until a considerable diminution shall have been made in the customs and excise duties now levied upon articles of consumption." Mr. White's speech upon this motion was very able. A stranger in the gallery might have fancied as he listened to it that an ex-Chancellor of the Exchequer was speaking. Indeed, we have known Chancellors of the Exchequer who, though they had (as all Chancellors of the Exchequer have) all the heads of the revenue departments to cram them, could not have got up a speech like that which Mr. White delivered. Mr. Lowe, when he rose to reply, must have felt that he had got before him "a foeman worthy of his steel;" and to those who are fond of traversing the arid, thorny region of finance the speech must have been interesting. The audience was not large; but, though few, it was composed of the right sort of men—merchants, manufacturers, bankers, and the like, who understand and are interested in finance.

THE CHANCELLOR OF THE EXCHEQUER'S REPLY.

We have said that the Chancellor must have felt that in Mr. White he had a foeman worthy of his steel. He, indeed, showed that he felt this; for of all the speeches which he has delivered since he has been Chancellor of the Exchequer, that in reply to Mr. White was far away the best. Mr. Lowe has not, either as a financier or a speaker, shone brilliantly this Session. Very poor was his Budget, and quite as poor his Budget speech. Perhaps he was conscious of this, and resolved, when he saw Mr. White's notice upon the book, to reconquer his lost position. Mr. Lowe had, of course, got up his speech with great labour and care. Chancellors of the Exchequer do not make extempore speeches on finance. But the fact was proved in a curious way. Mr. Lowe, when he rose, said, "I am going to answer a speech which the honourable member for Brighton ought to have made." The House laughed at this, and no doubt many thought it was a capital hit, as though he meant to say, "the honourable member might have found better and stronger arguments to prove his case, and I shall answer them;" and no doubt Mr. Lowe wished the House to think that he meant this, and perhaps he did. But there was another meaning in what he said—in fact, a double *entendre* lurked in this sentence. The case was as follows. When he was getting up his elaborate speech he imagined, as he thought, all

that Mr. White could say in favour of his motion. But Mr. White took a somewhat different line of argument to that which the Chancellor of the Exchequer had expected, and consequently his speech would not exactly fit. Here was then a dilemma; and this was the way by which the Chancellor of the Exchequer slipped out of it. "I shall not answer the speech which the hon. member has made, but that which he ought to have made." Clever Mr. Lowe! Yes, reader, he is very clever. "Too clever by half," at times some people say. And, no doubt, this is so. For example—He often answers questions with such clever smartness that he offends the self-esteem, wounds what the French call the amour propre, of the questioner, which a Minister of the Crown should never do.

DISGRACEFUL PROCEEDINGS.

On Monday we had the Army Bill again, and worked at it for six hours; but Lord Elcho and his obstructive myrmidons were obstinate as ever, and but very little progress was made—no progress, indeed. All that was achieved was the clearing away of two or three amendments, placed upon the paper to hinder progress. At twenty minutes past eleven, Major Anson, one of the foremost and most unscrupulous of the obstructives, moved that the Chairman do report progress, on the plea that the next amendment on the paper was too important to be discussed "at that late hour." Late hour!—the House often sits till two or even three o'clock; did, indeed, sit on that night, or rather the following morning, till three; and the gallant Major had the audacity to plead that twenty minutes past eleven was a late hour. But this, as our readers will see, was carrying out the "masterly policy of obstruction," and the threat that the obstructives would avail themselves of all the forms of the House to defeat this bill. A cheer from the Conservative benches greeted the motion of the gallant Major, and told plainly—what, however, we had learned before—that we were to have a desperate struggle. After some little talk, Mr. Gladstone had to consent to the motion. But then came another question. Mr. Gladstone proposed that the House should resume the consideration of the bill on Tuesday at two o'clock. This proposal the Conservatives, who had been summoned specially for a fight, and were now massed in force, met with stern, defiant, riotous resistance; and for three hours by the clock we had a scene in the House which cannot be described and which no epithet could denounce with sufficient emphasis. It was simply shameful. Passion had de-throned reason, and the House of Commons, which has been called "the most august representative assembly in the world," seemed for the time even like a Pandemonium of evil spirits. Meanwhile, Mr. Speaker sat in his chair passive and impotent; and Mr. Gladstone, who has been unwell of late, leaning back in his seat, his face, pale and wan as that of a ghost, turned upwards, looked indescribably wretched. Mr. Candlish alluded to the Premier's illness, and begged him to go home and let his party fight the battle out. Whereupon a jeering, sneering giggle ran along the Conservative ranks, so completely had passion and party spite o'ermastered all gentlemanly—all human—feeling. About half-past two Sir Laurence Palk suggested that the Government should give up the Thursday morning sitting and that the Conservative party should allow the Government to take morning sittings on Tuesdays and Fridays for the remainder of the Session. To this the Conservatives—many of them having gone away ashamed of the proceedings—assented; whereupon the Government closed with the proposal, and at three o'clock the House broke up.

Imperial Parliament.

FRIDAY, JUNE 2.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

The House occupied the earlier portion of its sitting with the discussion of a motion by Mr. WHITE setting forth the inexpediency of providing for the reduction of the national debt, by an annual charge upon the Imperial revenue, until a considerable diminution had been made in the Customs and Excise duties now levied upon articles of domestic consumption. The motion was opposed by the CHANCELLOR OF THE EXCHEQUER in a very able speech, which elicited general cheering, and was subsequently withdrawn. The other subjects discussed (it being private members' night) were the supply of gunpowder in the Government stores and the recent orders of the Privy Council relating to the importation of foreign cattle.

MONDAY, JUNE 5.

HOUSE OF LORDS.

The House, on reassembling, engaged in a discussion of the recently-issued War Office regulations relating to enlistment, which were criticised by Lord Sandhurst and the Duke of Richmond, and defended by the Field Marshal Commanding-in-Chief and Lord Northbrook. During the evening the Archbishop of Canterbury, who appeared greatly improved in health, took his seat in the House.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

A new writ was ordered for the election of a member for West Staffordshire, in the room of the late Mr. Meynell Ingram; and, after a long list of questions had been disposed of, the consideration of the Army Regulation Bill was once more resumed in Committee, the debates being of interminable length, and leading to no positive result.

TUESDAY, JUNE 6.

HOUSE OF LORDS.

The House held a brief sitting, at which the Canada Bill was read the third time and passed.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

HELLIGOLAND.

Lord ENFIELD (replying to a question from Sir J. Hay) gave an unreserved contradiction to the rumour that the North German Government had proposed a cession of Helligoland.

MANNING THE NAVY.

Mr. GRAVES moved for a Royal Commission to inquire how the services of merchant seamen and the seafaring population generally may be made more readily available for the naval service of the country in times of sudden emergency or war. Premising that the real defence of the country is to be sought not so much in military reorganisation as in the development of our unrivalled naval resources, he referred to the recommendations of the last Commission showing how some of its vital recommendations had not been carried out, and how a new inquiry is needed from the changes in the Mercantile Marine and the Royal Navy. Dealing with the question of Reserves, he described the various stringent and over-technical regulations in regard to height, age, length of drill, and so on, which, he contended, deterred both men and officers of the Mercantile Marine from joining the Naval Reserve, and argued in favour of establishing a closer connection between the Navy and the Mercantile Marine. In this he included also some schemes for utilising for defensive purposes, in the form of inshore flotillas and otherwise, the services of the maritime population—fishermen, boatmen, &c.—all round the coast, by which, he contended, the country might be made absolutely impregnable.

Mr. GOSCHEN, in arguing against the necessity of another Royal Commission, asserted that, if all the recommendations of the last Commission had been carried out, we should have a much larger number of seamen on hand, costing a much larger sum of money than there is any present need for. As the Irishmen require a much smaller complement than the old men-of-war, the Admiralty has at its command a larger force of blue-jackets than it can find ships for; in fact, it could man a second Mediterranean and Channel Fleet, without drawing at all on the Coast-guard. As to the condition of our Naval Reserves, however, Mr. Goschen admitted that it is not satisfactory, and requires consideration. He discussed the conditions of service objected to by Mr. Graves, allowing that they need modification, and, promising generally that the whole subject should have the attention of the Admiralty, which would not act departmentally, but would make use of all the means of information at its command, he urged that it would be much more expeditious to leave it to him to deal with the question on his responsibility than to hang it up by reference to a Royal Commission.

After some observations from Mr. Corry and Mr. Liddell, Mr. Graves withdrew the motion.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 7.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

A new writ was ordered for the election of a member for the county of Westmeath, in the room of Mr. Pollard-Urquhart, deceased. The House subsequently resolved, by 171 to 100, to go into Committee upon the Burials Bill. The remainder of the day was spent on the first clause of the bill. In the first place, a motion by Mr. Cawley to strike out

the words permitting a burial with or without any other service than that of the Church of England was rejected by 182 to 141; and, on the other hand, a proviso prohibiting clergymen of the Church from varying the present services, which Mr. Cowper-Temple wished to strike out, was retained by a majority of 155 to 141. Mr. J. G. Talbot next proposed to insert a provision that all burial services performed in the churchyards, when not according to a published ritual, shall consist of nothing but prayers and passages of Scripture; but it was negatived by the narrow majority of 2—146 to 144. A further division was taken on the question that the clause stand part of the bill, and this was carried by 149 to 127.

THURSDAY, JUNE 8.

HOUSE OF LORDS.

In reply to a question of the Earl of Lauderdale, whether the preference to be given to men who had been in the Army Reserve for employment in certain departments in the Post Office should not be extended to women and marines, Lord NORTHBROOK said he was informed by the Postmaster-General that the subject was under consideration.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

A desultory conversation took place respecting the countenances on the previous Friday and Tuesday, after which the House once more entered into Committee upon the Army Regulation Bill, commencing with clause 2, to which Mr. Rylands moved an amendment, restricting the compensation for the value of the officers' commissions to the regulation privates. This gave rise to another discussion of a similar character to the many other discussions that have already taken place on this subject.

THE IRISH PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH.

THE annual general assembly of the Presbyterian Church commenced its sittings, on Monday evening, in the church built by Mr. Findlater in Rutland-square. There was a numerous attendance. After the customary solemnities, the outgoing Moderator, the Rev. Professor Smyth, alluded in his parting address to the assumption of the exclusive title "Church of Ireland" by the Disestablished Church, and characterised it as an aggression upon Scriptural fact and Christian fellowship for any section of Irish Christians to appropriate that name, which is the common heritage of all, for the Church of this land is the whole body of faithful people, no matter what may be their denominational or distinctive peculiarities. He reviewed the conduct of the Presbyterian body since the great measure of disestablishment and disendowment had passed into law, and stated that the sustentation of the ministry was no longer doubtful, but secure. He congratulated the Assembly upon the fact that there had been no miscarriage in the plans of the financial committees. The Rev. L. E. Berkeley, of Lurgan, was appointed Moderator for the ensuing year. The new Moderator, in his inaugural address, also touched upon the subject of the title, which has excited a good deal of sensitive feeling among Irish Presbyterians. He denied that they were a Scotch Church in Ireland, although they owed much to Scotland, and observed that the Presbyterian system had not been forced on Ireland by Henry II., or by the power of another in whose name and by whose authority he professed to act. Columba, a native of this country, when he went to Scotland in 563, took with him substantially the Presbyterian order. The General Assembly, he said, represented 680 ordained ministers and licentiates, 554 home congregations, 2274 elders, 6053 deacons or members of committees, and upwards of half a million of adherents, or nearly half the Protestants of Ireland. He believed they represented more nearly what was the Primitive Church of the country, both as regarded doctrine and government. They did not vote by orders, but a vote of the humblest elder was as potent on a division as that of the most distinguished minister, and all questions of doctrine and discipline are decided by a majority of votes, all voting equally. Alluding to the effects of the Act of Disestablishment which severed their connection with the State, he observed, amid applause, that the change had not at all affected their loyalty to Queen Victoria; they said and prayed as heartily as ever, "God Save the Queen." The change had not affected their freedom—they were as free as ever—nor their Constitution. The only change was in their financial circumstance; but commutation was safe, for the ministers and people had proved faithful. He pointed out their future duties, and especially urged the importance of preserving and perpetuating in Ireland "the blessings of non-sectarian education in university intermediate and primary spheres." As to the principles upon which the Legislature should take part in the work, he maintained that in all colleges aided and endowed by the State the consciences of local minorities must be legally protected, and patrons and managers of such schools must never be permitted to make the reception of any particular religious instruction a condition of acquiring the elements of secular knowledge. The State, having withdrawn all aid from all Churches in Ireland, could not, he said, without the greatest inconsistency, endow rival and sectarian colleges and schools; but let the youth of the country get a really free education, and they believed they would take a high place among the nations of the earth, renowned in religion, literature, and art. The assembly applauded his sentiments, and proceeded to its ordinary business after passing by acclamation a resolution appointing a committee to prepare an address of congratulation to the Queen on the marriage of Princess Louise with the Marquis of Lorne.

THE EXTRADITION OF FRENCH REFUGEES.—In anticipation of the demand of the French Government for the extradition of any refugees from Paris who may reach England, it has been determined to raise a guarantee fund, in order to provide the aid of counsel for persons accused on account of their complicity in the recent troubles. Among the gentlemen who have associated themselves for this purpose are Sir Charles Dilke, M.P., Mr. Mundella, M.P., Mr. Jacob Bright, M.P., Mr. James White, M.P., Mr. Henry Campbell, M.P., Mr. Frederic Harrison, Dr. Humphrey Sandwith, C.B., Captain Maxse, R.N., Mr. William Haenen, and Mr. Albert Crompton, who acts as secretary.

PENDING STRIKES.—The strike in South Wales is now a gloomy fact, and nearly 20,000 men have struck work. These are principally the sea-coal colliers from the Ferndale and other districts of the Rhondda, and also a considerable number from the Aberdare Valley. Large meetings are held daily. The engine-men and firemen have given notice; and on Monday a disturbance broke out at Tremau, an extra police force being sent for to quell it.—Twelve Flemish joiners arrived in Newcastle, on Monday, from Antwerp. The arrival was expected by the Newcastle operative joiners out on strike, as well as the master joiners; and there was a considerable muster of both masters and men. The masters had taken measures to defeat any efforts of the strike hands to hold conversation with the Flemings, and consequently the batch of foreign workmen were carried off by their future employers in the completest security. For some weeks past the master joiners have had agents in Belgium with the view of obtaining a sufficiency of workmen to fill the vacancies in Newcastle workshops caused by the strike in the building trade. It appears that the Belgian operative joiners work for 24s. an hour, and therefore it may easily be supposed that the offer of 6d. an hour would seem an excellent chance of bettering their condition. The Newcastle Express understands that in the course of a week or so a number of men sufficient to fill all the present vacancies will be brought over from Belgium, and so bring the nine-hours' dispute to an end.

STATUES OF STATESMEN AT WESTMINSTER.—It has been proposed to erect at Westminster, by means of funds subscribed, statues of the late Sir Robert Peel, Viscount Palmerston, and the Earl of Derby; and, in consequence of communications made to the Government, the Treasury recently requested Mr. Barry and Mr. Weekes, together with Mr. Fergusson, to report upon the subject. These gentlemen state in their report, dated May 8, that the two gardens in Parliament-square, opposite the gateway of New Palace-yard, are the only open-air spaces at present available for the statues of statesmen in the neighbourhood of the Houses of Parliament; and that, if the central avenue between these gardens were widened to 28ft., ten statues could be accommodated, five on each side of it, so as to form a pleasing and appropriate approach to the Houses of Parliament. While some of the pedestals might be unoccupied, they might be temporarily surmounted by vases to contain flowers. The four truncated angles of the square would afford suitable positions for eight more statues, and suggestions are made to prevent any incongruity or unpleasing effect while the number may be incomplete. The three gentlemen consulted are of opinion that the statues should, as a general rule, be one half larger than life-size, inclusive of the plinth of about 5 in., and that they should not all be of a uniform height; but that the same variety of height as exists in life should be, approximately at least, retained. The pedestals should be uniform in dimensions and in design, and in accordance with the architecture of the surrounding buildings. It is considered that 8 ft. will be the best height for the pedestals. After the eighteen statues have been erected, which can be placed in Parliament-square-gardens, other sites may be available, in consequence of the proposed clearance in Old Palace-yard and Abingdon-street.

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SATURDAY, JUNE 10, 1871.

OUR WATER SUPPLY AND OUR SEWAGE.

Two highly important problems are clamouring for decisive solution just now, and neither of them can be called difficult. In the first, indeed, the question is mainly one of policy and method; for there is no question whatever of possibility or desirability. It is an admitted fact that we have, especially in large towns, an immense quantity of direct waste in the use of the ordinary water supply; that this waste is chiefly a result of carelessness; and that there are easy and inexpensive mechanical appliances which might be brought into use for the prevention of the waste. It is also admitted that, apart from such matters as not turning off taps and the like, in consequence of which about a fourth of the ordinary water supply of the companies is squandered, there is an utter neglect—except in the case of town waterworks—of proper measures of storage. We do not impound or pond up the excess of the rainy weather in order to be prepared for a time of drought. Hence, inconveniences such as this country suffered last year; and hence the moral certainty of inconveniences much greater still if we ever have a series of dry years. And such a series, if meteorologists may be trusted, we have actually entered upon. Whether we have or not is not the point, for any year we may do so. But why should we wait till disaster is upon us? The question of mechanical methods is a very simple one, and the whole subject is strictly within the range of governmental control. In the meanwhile, enlightened landlords may do something in the way of making experiments, instead of trusting to the chapter of accidents. Even the quantity of rainfall is partly under our control (how our ancestors would have recoiled from the blasphemy!), and by proper methods of utilisation we may so effectually set off the wet years against the dry as to secure ourselves from anything like drought.

The other question—that of fertilising land by applying sewage matter to it—is receiving much more attention, and yet it moves but slowly. Here, indeed, a new problem has arisen, thanks to Dr. Cobbold and others. Since the days of such pioneers (if the word will pass) as Mr. F. O. Ward and Mr. Mechi, of Tiptree, the world has learnt a good deal of what may be done by sewage irrigation. Everybody knows what wonders have been wrought in Craigintinnie Meadows and elsewhere; and what wonders have been promised on Maplin Sands and all manner of wildernesses, if we will only spend a little money. But though there is no doubt that the desert may be made into a rose-garden by pouring on it that which the inhabited place must by some means get rid of, there are after questions. It has been affirmed—we do not believe a word of it—that external injuries, such as cuts, heal slowly or not at all if received by dwellers in the neighbourhood of land irrigated by sewage. Nor is that the worst. Dr. Cobbold tells us (to use the phraseology of an advocate on the other side) that “if you drink the milk that is got from the cow that is fed on the grass that is grown on the land that is fertilised by sewage,” you are liable to no end of horrible diseases from minute organic germs brought into the system. Of this, again, we do not believe a word; but why cannot the wisacres settle it among themselves, so far as such a matter can be settled? Science can scarcely predict that under no conceivable circumstances could a germ of disease find its way through sewage-fertilised vegetation into the animal system; but it certainly looks as if it could not be very difficult to make, upon a given number of inferior creatures, such experiments as would set the question practically at rest. There was lately a man in a Liverpool hospital who was slowly dying of enteric disease caused by his having swallowed a water-tiger or some such hopeful creature in a draught of water; and germs of disease may get into one almost anyhow; but it must be comparatively easy to determine whether there is any more danger in eating sewage-grown strawberries or drinking sewage-meadow milk than in drinking river-water not directly polluted. At present there is an immense prejudice among agriculturists in general against sewage irrigation; and the outside value of the liquid manure of towns is said to be a farthing a ton. But we have no doubt that before long all difficulties and alarms will be surmounted and the rejected matter of inhabited places applied to its natural use in completing the cycle of production. Only, the sooner the better for us all.

THE LONDON SCHOOL BOARD, on Wednesday, adopted a resolution providing for the immediate raising of £40,000, to meet expenses in the past and up to March, 1872. It was announced, on behalf of the statistical committee, that returns were rapidly coming in, and that the educational census might be proceeded with forthwith, perhaps with the exception of the districts of Marylebone and Finsbury.

SAYINGS AND DOINGS.

THE PRINCE AND PRINCESS OF WALES visited Ascot races on Tuesday. They went to the heath in the old-fashioned royal style, all the carriages being drawn by four horses and attended by outriders in scarlet liveries.

THE DUKE OF EDINBURGH, who is a patron of the Royal Naval School, New-cross, has kindly consented to distribute the prizes on Tuesday, the 20th inst.

THE PRINCESS OF WALES has forwarded a donation of 25s. to the National Hospital for Consumption on the separate or cottage principle, Ventnor, Undercliff, Isle of Wight.

THE EX-EMPEROR NAPOLEON, who has been suffering from rheumatic gout during several weeks, is now better, and is enabled to walk about the grounds attached to Camden House without difficulty.

MR. BRIGHT and HIS SON arrived at Laverne last Saturday. They were to go on Tuesday to Talcott Lodge, the shooting quarters of Mr. Bass, M.P. Mr. Bright, it is stated, looks well, and is evidently profiting by his Highland tour.

MR. CHILDERS, M.P., who is still at Nice, is improving in health.

MR. GROTE, the historian of Greece, is reported to be seriously ill.

THE BISHOP OF LONDON, at his ordination on Sunday, in accordance with the recent decision in the case of “Hibbert v. Purchas,” wore a cope. The cope is made of purple silk, lined with black silk and without trimmings.

THE POSTMASTER GENERAL has given notice that the order directing that the purchase of postage-stamps from the public by the Post Office should be discontinued after the 30th inst. has been rescinded.

MR. FORSTER assured a deputation of Liberals and representatives of working-men's associations which waited upon him last Saturday that he had every hope of carrying the Ballot Bill this Session.

THE UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD, on Tuesday, determined, at a meeting of Convocation, to confer the honorary degree of D.C.L. on Dr. Döllinger.

GEORGE BROWN, Lord Bago's head wood-ranger, was found dead, with his head frightfully injured, in a wood near Abbots Bromley, Staffordshire, early on Sunday morning.

MASS has been said at Rome by order of the Pope for the priests shot at Paris.

THE MARQUIS OF HARTINGTON has presented a handsome silver paten to the English Church at Wiesbaden, which was robbed lately of its communal plate. The Crown Princess of Prussia (the Princess Royal) has also presented a beautiful communion service of silver plate.

HIS GRACE THE DUKE OF WELLINGTON will preside at the annual festival of the City Orthopedic Hospital, Hatton-garden, at the London Tavern on Wednesday evening next. The institution, of which this is the twentieth anniversary, needs funds for carrying on its beneficent work in the treatment of all kinds of bodily deformity among the poor, from whom no letter of recommendation is required that they may be received as patients.

MR. J. G. BENNETT, on the part of the New York Yacht Club, has accepted the challenge of M. J. Ashbury to sail the *Livonia* for the America's cup.

THE TELEGRAPH CONSTRUCTION AND MAINTENANCE COMPANY have received a telegram stating that the China cable was successfully laid to Hong-Kong on the 3rd inst. Cable testing perfectly.

VERY DESTRUCTIVE FLOODS have prevailed at New Orleans, the water in many parts of the city being 2 ft. deep.

THE NATIONAL ORTHOPEDIC HOSPITAL, Great Portland-street, announces that a grand fancy bazaar in aid of the funds of the institution will be held, at the Hanover-square Rooms, on Tuesday and Wednesday, the 13th and 14th inst., under distinguished patronage.

THE SOUTH KENSINGTON MUSEUM was visited during Whitsun week by 33,359 persons—the average in corresponding weeks of former years being 25,539.

A MINISTER, not long ago, preached from the text, “Be ye therefore steadfast,” but the printer made him expound from “Be ye there for breakfast!”

THE GRAND JURY at the Old Bailey have returned four true bills against the girl Agnes Norman for wilful murder and one for manslaughter.

THE SITE OF THE FLEET PRISON has been selected by the Congregationalists for the spacious hall and public buildings about to be erected by them for the purposes of their denomination.

EARL FORTESCUE presided, on Monday, over a conference, at the South Kensington Museum, at which the importance of having an international system of weights, measures, and coins was strongly insisted on; and resolutions were carried in favour of the decimal divisions.

A NEW POEM by Mr. Robert Browning, called “Balanstion's Adventure,” will be published in the course of the present month. Miss Nightingale has a new book nearly ready for publication on lying-in institutions and the training of midwives.

“THERE are some things which will never be hurt by falling,” growled an old man in market the other morning. “What's them?” inquired a market-man. “Prices,” said the old man; “they're so awful slow in falling that they'll never get smashed.”

THE PRINCE OF WALES, accompanied by Prince John of Glin Keberg and Mr. Paget, and attended by Colonel Keppel and his Imperial Highness the Grand Duke Vladimir of Russia and suite, attended by Colonel Ellis, paid a visit to the exhibition of the Two-Headed Nightingale combination and other natural wonders at Willis's Rooms.

THE EXCHEQUER RECEIPTS from April 1 to June 3 amounted to £11,230,564, an increase of £117,000 upon the return for the corresponding period of last year. The expenditure has been £12,530,863. The balance in the Bank of England on Saturday last was £1,088,400, and in that of Ireland £973,725.

EDWARD SHIPLEY, alias Brundell, a hawk, attending Northampton Market, has been apprehended on a charge of being concerned in the murder of a Huntingdon policeman thirty years ago.

A POOR MAN NAMED MILLES, living near Bideford, Devon, suddenly found himself in a very disagreeable position last Saturday. A large swarm of bees fell upon him and completely covered his head and neck, and kept him spell-bound for a long time. Assistance ultimately arrived, and the bees, with considerable difficulty, were beaten off with firebricks.

A SHOCKING MURDER has been perpetrated at York by a watchmaker named Cook. He was a pation of drunken habits; and, because his wife refused to give him money to expend in the purchase of “drink,” he stabbed her two or three times and then cut her throat.

THE BODY OF A YOUNG GIRL, apparently about fourteen or fifteen years of age, has been discovered, shockingly disfigured, in Johnstown Wood, about four miles from Athlone. It is reported that, some days ago, a girl, the daughter of a retired policeman, ran away from home, and has not been heard of since, and it is suspected that this may be her body. It is, however, so torn—apparently by dogs—that it cannot be identified with certainty.

THE HON. FREDERICK CHARLES HOWARD (late of the Coldstream Guards), second son of the Earl of Effingham, was married, last Saturday, to Lady Constance Eleanor Caroline Finch-Hatton, eldest daughter of the Earl of Winchelsea and Nottingham, at St. Margaret's Church, Westminster. The ceremony was performed by the Rev. Studholme Brownrigg, Rector of Moulsoe, the bride being given away by her father. Lord Valentia was the bridegroom's best man. Shortly after two o'clock the newly-wedded pair took their departure for Tusmore, the Earl of Effingham's seat near Bicester, Oxon.

THE CHIEF COMMISSIONER OF WORKS has it in contemplation to add another attractive feature to the metropolis, by displaying the lime-light on the great clock-tower at the New Palace of Westminster so long as the House of Commons is sitting. The light will be visible from every portion of the town, and when it is extinguished it will be known far and near that the labours of the Legislature are suspended. The arrangements for displaying the light will be under the direction of Dr. Percy and Professor Tyndall.

MR. J. B. JOHNSON, of Leeds, last Saturday, won the swimming championship of England at Hendon. His opponent, Mr. Henry Parker, the amateur champion of 1870-1, was seized with cramp after accomplishing the best portion of the distance in first-class style, and he had to be taken on board a boat. The distance was one mile. The cup, the gift of the London Swimming Club, is valued at 50s. The champion, on the preceding day, gallantly saved the life of a gentleman who had fallen overboard from one of the Thames steamers by jumping off the parapet of London Bridge.

THE SKIN OF THE LITTLE HIPPOPOTAMUS which was recently born and died in the Zoological Society's gardens has been mounted by Mr. E. Gerrard, jun., of Camden Town, and is now exhibited in the giraffe-house in the society's gardens. The skeleton of the animal has been placed in the museum of the Royal College of Surgeons, as likewise several beautiful preparations of the internal organs. Professor Flower, F.R.S., the curator of the Hunterian Museum, will shortly communicate to the Zoological Society a memoir upon the anatomy of the hippopotamus, based on his examination of this specimen.

“THE LAST DAY OF THE CONDEMNED.”

AMIDST the reports that reach us every day from France, imagination is weakened in its efforts to realise the terrible occurrences which it is called upon to deal with. We are continually supping full of horrors, till we pass by the dreadful repast in sheer inability even to taste. The events of succeeding hours seem to be but confused repetitions of deeds of blood and violence, and all we can distinguish is a want of rational sequence which gives history itself the appearance of an uneasy dream. Even artists who depict the scenes, that we may the better chronicle their main incidents, lose the power of intensity, and find too much repetition of terrible incident to be able to preserve the aspect of terror. It is there; but we only feel it in a numb, powerless kind of way. Eyes and ears are weary of horrors and of epithets used to describe them. There is a monotony of outrage which enfeebles attention. Under such conditions, it is a good thing to get rid of such subjects for a time, and go back to the efforts of painters who have had time and opportunity for completing works which will help us to realise what is now taking place by presenting to us a scene strong in its deep human interest. Such a picture is that from which our Engraving is taken: the work of one of the painters of the modern German school, who, in his sympathy with suffering, can stir our hearts by a fine discrimination between what is painful and what is revolting. This picture—the Last Day of the Condemned—is admirable in its treatment, vigorous in drawing, and full of a fine force. The rebel whose cell is for the last time visited by those who come to see what such a man is like may have been a patriot with the brooding thoughts of a duty like that of Tell or Kosciuszko; the poor heart-broken wife may have implored him in vain to wean his heart from revolution, and to think of his child and her; the very sentry who guards him may have a feeling in his heart that, if a reprieve might come, he could fraternise with the poor fellow and help to strike the manacles from his hands. There are lowering, grief-stricken faces; curious, half-pitying faces—mere wondering, idle expressions—in the group that crowd the cell. The little basin wherein lie the subscriptions that are to buy masses for the dead who is yet living; the little table, with its altar-like cloth and its two coarse candles with the crucifix between them; the missal, cast aside along with that crumpled, ragged sheet of paper—perhaps an exhortation to repentance of that deed of which he cannot feel the sin; the attempt to oppose the powers that have now taken him and manacled his erring feet—all are expressive of the human woe that such a picture sets our hearts throbbing to relieve.

FATHER HYACINTHE ON THE SITUATION IN FRANCE.

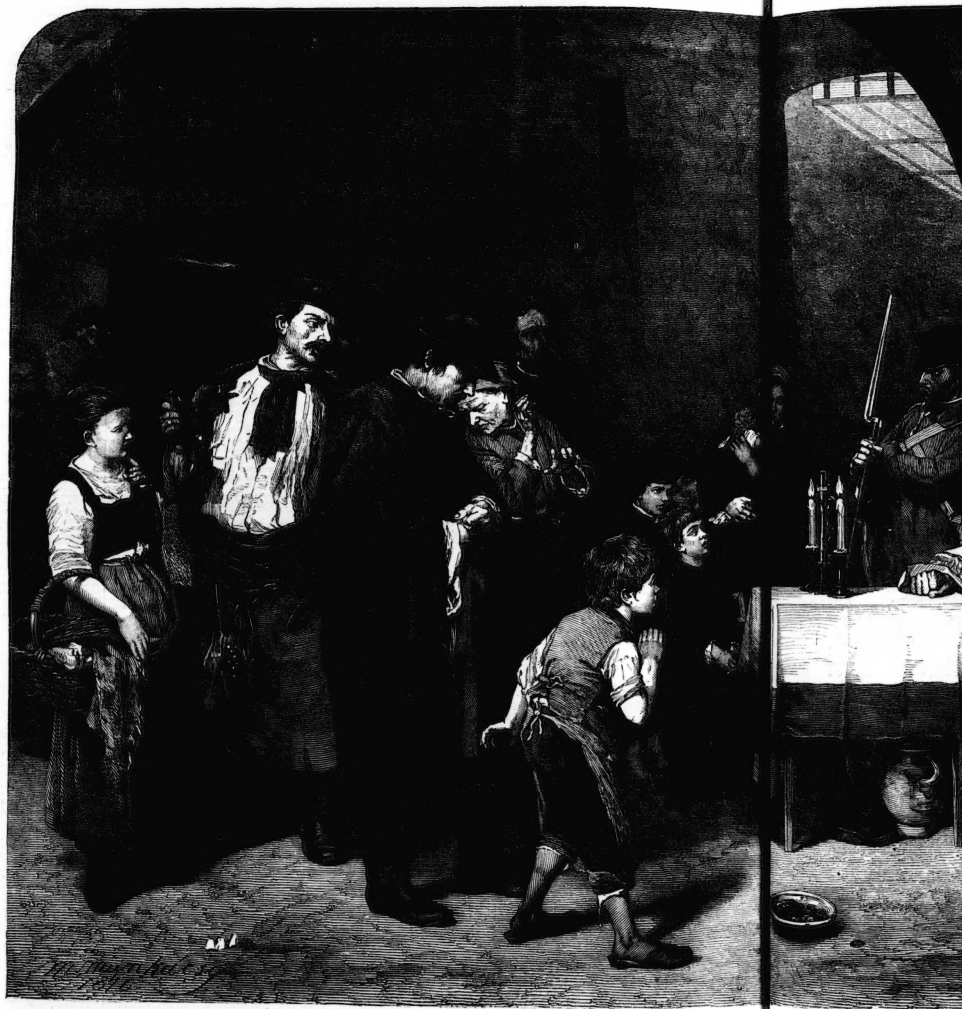
FATHER HYACINTHE has addressed the following letter to the *Gaulois*:

Rome, May 29.
The Italian Government and Parliament have testified their sympathy with France in noble language. Without being surprised at this, I am greatly affected, and I feel impelled to express my gratitude. At a moment when men blinded by passions endeavour to propagate falsehood and sow discord between two sister nations, it is the duty of all enlightened and honest men to draw closer the ties which unite France to Italy. If the Latin races are to maintain, I will not say their independence only, but their great position in face of the menacing preponderance of the Germanic and Slavonic races, personified in Prussia and Russia, they must above all things be united. In no other way can they resume the traditions of that Western civilisation whose destinies are blended with those of the Catholic Church; and whose mission, if she would recover her ancient splendour, is to stifle in her own bosom those two enemies whose combats are cruel and sterile—revolution and absolutism, superstition and impiety. Moreover, in defending to-day her own cause, France defends that of society at large. Yes, human dignity, law, and liberty, the civilisation of the two worlds, have been outraged and trampled upon by new barbarians amidst the bloody streets and burning monuments of Paris. In vain do the men of March 18 pretend to represent two political ideas which would be just if confined within their true limits—the idea of that Commune to which M. de Bismarck did homage in the Reichstag on May 2, and the idea of the moral and material regeneration of the working classes. They have compromised these causes by most unacceptable exaggeration and by the odious means they have made use of. They would have realised the triumph of their cause at the expense of the national unity and on the ruins of social and religious order. They were a party of assassins, incendiaries, and atheists; but so great a party, that they were—or, at least, appeared to be—a people. And what is a people without God? Sages have endeavoured to describe them, but the facts we have just seen reveal what such a people is with a reality which defies words. The demonstration of what social atheism has been complete. Providence allowed it for an hour to disport itself on the greatest theatre of the world, to revel in its orgies, and perform the most terrible of dramas. But is this people alone guilty, and are cannon the only remedy? Beware of that easy and fatal illusion which would deprive us of the fruit of the dreadful lesson. Mr. Gladstone once said, “The nineteenth century is the century of the working classes.” And, in point of fact, the question of the working classes is eminently occupies the attention of the statesman and the man of science, and our society will never know peace till it is solved. The Second Empire thought much of this question; but it dealt with it too much according to the traditions of the Roman Caesars, *panem et circenses*. The Second Empire looked only to material amelioration, and even in that point of view it did not take the best means; as, for example, when it forced public works in the great cities, especially in Paris, stripped the fields of hands, and congregated populations which lived apart from the normal conditions of family religious influences, and consequently of morality. What should have been done was to think of that popular instruction which is universal among our neighbours beyond the Rhine, and which, at least as much as her military organisation, is a source of strength to Germany. An attempt should have been made to heal those two sores which eat into the entrails of our people—the prolonged celibacy of soldiers and the legal prostitution of women. Above all, a better example should have been set in high places. And the Church herself has not done what she ought to have done for the practical solution of this terrible problem. The Temporal Power and the Pope's Infallibility distracted the thoughts and efforts of those who preside over the destinies of the Church at a moment unparalleled in its history. Instead of the promises and teachings of the Gospel to the disinherited of this world, the Church in the noisy echoes of the press, and sometimes even by the mouth of its Bishops, treated matters of bitter controversy as the Pope-King, the dogmatism of intolerance, and the canonisation of the Inquisition. I do not calumniate the political and religious régime that we have submitted to for more than twenty years, and which is summed up in these two words—“Scepticism at Paris; fanaticism at Rome.” I do not calumniate, I do not even accuse, I narrate. But I say that there is the lesson of the present moment, and that the question is whether we wish or not to continue this fatal course. In the presence of that Paris in ashes, which I have dwelt in, which I have evangelised, and the history of which I know, I have the right to utter this cry of a grief which God alone knows the depth of. Behold the work of a people which no longer knows God. And behold the work of those who render it impossible for it to believe in that God, and, above all, to love him.

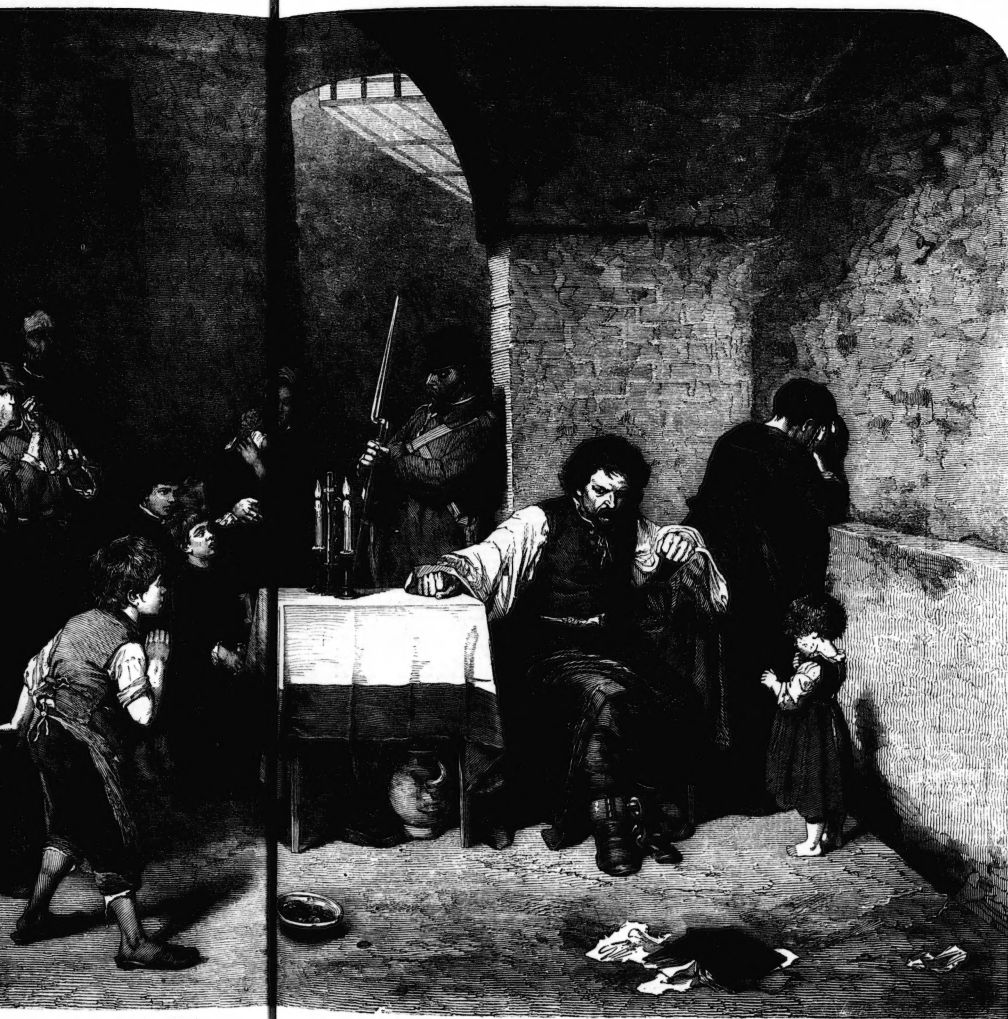
HYACINTHE.
P.S.—Just as I had finished these lines the telegraph announced to us that the Archbishop of Paris had been shot. This horrible crime is the confirmation of the mysterious law in virtue of which the innocent suffer for the guilty. Mr. Darboy was of the number of those who understand and wish for the alliance of the Church with modern society. If he did not realise all that he had conceived, it was because the fatality of the times was stronger than he. He gave way, however, to no illusions, and awaited death with that cold enthusiasm which characterised him on great occasions. I still hear what he said to me in the last interview I had with him, a few days ago, at the moment of leaving for Rome: “If they kill me they will advance the principle that I represent;” and I shall never forget with what an accent he added, “Au revoir, here below, or elsewhere!”

MR. BACON'S EQUESTRIAN STATUE OF THE PRINCE CONSORT.—Mr. Bacon, of Sloane-street, is engaged upon an equestrian statue of the Prince Consort, which it is intended to erect in the circus at the western end of the Holborn Viaduct, near Hatton-garden. The statue will be a little over life-size, and is the gift to the City of a gentleman who desires to maintain a strict incognito. Mr. Bacon's studio also contains a sketch for the group of blocks known as the Adelphi landing-stairs, on the Thames Embankment. This, however, is merely a suggestion; whether the idea will meet with the approval of the Metropolitan Board of Works is problematical.

THE PERMISSIVE BILL.—On Tuesday evening the Lord Mayor, pursuant to a unanimously signed requisition, held a meeting of the citizens, in the Guildhall, in support of the Permissive Prohibitory Sale of Liquors Bill. The assembly was crowded and disorderly, the chorus of “Old John Barleycorn” frequently rendering the speech-making inaudible. A resolution in favour of the bill having been proposed, Alderman Gibbons moved an amendment condemnatory of the principles of Sir W. Lawson's bill and also of the Licensing Bill of the Government. The amendment was said to be lost by a small majority and the resolution carried.



"THE LAST DAY OF THE CONDEMNED"



"THE LAST DAY OF THE CONDEMNED"

THE LOUNGER.

THE *Times* of Wednesday says we are "scandalised by the co-existence of repeated count-outs and an almost complete stoppage of public business." Here we have an expression of public opinion that, as the public, or Government, business, is so behind-hand, the House ought never to be counted-out. But, though the backward state of Government business co-exists with count-outs, they have no connection. Government business is transacted on Mondays and Thursdays; count-outs occur on Tuesdays and Fridays, which are at the command of private members. Then it must be remembered that an inexorable law governs these matters. If members are kept in the House until three o'clock on Tuesday morning, it cannot be expected that they will keep a House on Tuesday night. If you overwork a horse on Monday you cannot get much work out of him on Tuesday. The members stopped to hear Mr. Graves upon manning the Navy, and the First Lord's reply, because the subject was important; but no power could get them to remain to listen to Delahanty on Irish paper money, or Sir John Pakington on the Cornwall Rangers squabble, which had already been thrashed out in the Lords. Indeed, although Sir John is an ex-Cabinet Minister, the Conservative members almost to a man deserted him.

The Government are to have morning sittings for their business on Tuesdays and Fridays. It is hoped rather than expected—in my opinion it is hoping against hope—that the military officers will now mitigate their obstruction, and allow the clauses of the Army Bill to be calmly discussed. I do not believe they will. There are, to me, no signs that they are less madly factious and obstructive than they have been. Meanwhile, it is rumoured that, if the Government can but get the six clauses which abolish Army purchase through, they will send them to the Lords, and postpone the thirty Army regulation clauses until next Session. In such case they may get the Ballot Bill through. But if they attempt to force through the whole of the Army Bill as it now stands, they will have to give up the Ballot Bill. The threat to sit till September is a *brutum fulmen*—a futile threat, for Gladstone knows well that, though a sufficient number of members of the Commons might stop, my Lords would certainly not pass the Army or Ballot Bill late in August.

On the Ballot Bill there has been no discussion. On the second reading it was arranged that the discussion should be taken on the motion for going into Committee. It is expected that this discussion will last two or three nights; but the bill is short, and it is thought that it will pass through Committee in two nights or two morning sittings. The Scotch Education Bill, the Miners Bill, the Pilotage Bill, the Merchant Shipping Bill, all exceedingly important measures, will all probably be shunted. There is such a stoppage in the Prayer-book printing and binding trade that Mr. Secretary Bruce must get the Prayer-Book and Lessons Bill passed. That, however, has passed the Lords, and can wait awhile. Private members' bills will most of them be massacred in July.

The idea that military officers receiving pay voted by Parliament ought not to be members of Parliament is born, and will grow—grow rapidly—when it shall get into the open air of public opinion, and become a power that will drive, at no distant day, these military placemen out of the House, as they ought to be driven; for it is not constitutional, nor even decent, that men should vote their own pay or oppose measures which affect, and because they affect, their own pecuniary interests. Many years ago I thought that this idea would get broached. The birth of it has been somewhat premature—that is, it has come before I thought it would. The obstinate, indecorous, shameless opposition of the military officers to the Army Bill has forced the birth of the idea. At present the notion only gets itself uttered in whispers; but rely upon it that it will soon find voice—strong, potent, and irresistible. At present the House is under military domination. The officers of the Queen's Army are openly—I had almost said mutinously—resisting the Queen. The Queen, through her Government, says—My Army ought to be reformed. The officers of the Army declare that it shall not. Or, if you like, the sovereign people, through their representatives, say the Army shall be reformed; but are stopped by the officers, whom the people pay.

THE LITERARY LOUNGER.

THE MAGAZINES.

In the *Dublin University* are some verses by Mr. R. C. F. Hannay, entitled "Scott and Tennyson;" and very good verses they are, too. The subject is a rapid contrast of Sir Walter Scott and Mr. Tennyson, and, in spite of the fact that the elements of the contrast are now so familiar to reading men, they are brought out with point and grace. Talking of Mr. Tennyson, we all remember that phrase, "the long, long canker of peace," in "Maud." I have just all upon the line,

The cankers of a calm world and a long peace.

And where do you suppose the line occurs? Shakespeare, Shakespeare, Sir; Shakespeare, and *kein ende*, as the Germans say. See I. Henry IV., iv. 2. But I dare say the phrase is to be found elsewhere. Mr. Tennyson's use of it, however, cannot be a reminiscence proper, because Falstaff's sense for it is totally different from his.

It is to be hoped that those who are on the look-out for a new sensation in the novel-reading way will not overlook the new-comer, "A Daughter of Heth." There is a very fresh flavour about it; and who would suspect from the title that it is a story of the life of a young lady born of a Scotch father and a French mother, and that the scene lies mainly around a Scotch manse? The young scapegrace of the family, who ducks his "goody" brother to make him "say a swear," and the old Gael Neil who was, in his own proper person, the terror of Bonaparte, are almost beyond praise. The author, whoever he is, must have been out yachting in the very neighbourhood he describes. And how he describes! I never was out in a yacht there, but I feel as if I had been, and had shot a seal myself!

In *Good Words* Miss Katherine Saunders's story of the "High Mills" is going on admirably. It is not so strained as "Gideon's Rock;" but, if it has any fault, it would still bear toning down a little. Canon Kingsley's lecture on "Physical Science" would be blameless if it were not for its illustrating once again that old trick of his of trying to feel that every modern conception is to be found in documents that are thousands of years old. It is just like the attempt to make out the Church catechism immaculate and all-comprehensive. To say that the Church of England declares "the permanence of natural laws" because it "incorporates" the song of "The Three Children," and to go on to say, "That is my charter as a student of physical science," is empty rant and bluster. I have no doubt Canon Kingsley is perfectly honest now; but no man could write in this way who had not at some time of his life put himself through a course of intellectual self-mutilation. The other papers are singularly interesting. The "Sylvestres" is really capital. The letters to the Phalanstery are irresistible. Here is one:—"Sir,—Have supper and bed for two. Coming by the 6.15 train to-morrow.—T. C." This is from a perfect stranger. The one from Aglae also is admirable. But I do not remember the political economist "who once declared his belief that 'To everyone according to his wants' was a maxim which would bring about the salvation of society." I do remember the motto, "From everyone according to his capacity, and to everyone according to his need." And a noble motto it is.

The devout reader of the "Literary Lounger" knows that "dis nigger" sides with Samuel Bailey, Mr. Abbott, and others against Berkeley's theory of vision. But the authority of Mr. Mill, who is an adherent of Berkeley in this matter, has borne down, or at least discouraged, most of the recent opposition. But here comes a fresh adherent for us poor anti-Berkeleyans, no less stalwart a knight than Professor Huxley. See his luminous paper in

Macmillan, entitled "Bishop Berkeley on the Metaphysics of Sensation." Principal Shairp, of St. Andrew's, in a very pleasant and luminous paper, re-states the case for Ossian, founding himself upon the recent book of the Rev. Archibald Clerk, of Kilmallie. Of Gaelic I know not a whit more than other reading men who take a special interest in philological inquiries, so, on the historical part of the question, my opinion is not worth a rap. But that "Macpherson's Ossian," as it was called, contained much striking poetry which no one could have "forged" but a modern Ossian, I have always held; and the theory of Mr. Clerk and Mr. Shairp is no doubt the true one—that Macpherson had genuine originals, which he rendered and pieced together in eighteenth-century fashion. But I cannot agree with Mr. Shairp in blaming Macpherson for "sulkily" refusing further opportunities of verification, when those he had given were slighted, and he was treated as a dishonest man. His "sulks" were surely the sulks of becoming self-respect, and nothing more. The story, "Patty," runs on as brightly as ever. The recovered letters of Mendelssohn are interesting; but there is something—or is it my fancy?—a "kind-of-a-sort" of unnecessary self-consciousness about that man's correspondence that is not quite agreeable.

THE THEATRICAL LOUNGER.

We shall all be sorry to part with Miss Henriette Hodson, a gifted actress who has, during her management, made the ROYALTY one of the prettiest and pleasantest theatres in London. But perhaps it is only for a time, and those who enjoy, and always have enjoyed, the Royalty may look forward to the return of the intelligent manageress who certainly has the rare gift of adorning what she touches. Stimulated by her success in the pathetic passages of "Behind a Mask," Miss Henriette Hodson was, no doubt, induced to take a higher flight. Very similar in interest and situation is Mr. John Oxenford's "The Reigning Favourite," a play recalling Mr. Leigh Murray in his best days. Miss Hodson acquitted herself very creditably, and if she could have been better supported the success of the revival would no doubt have been greater. But the few preliminary performances until Wednesday were doubtless only intended as dress rehearsals previous to the benefit night, which I am delighted to find was a great success. Mr. Lionel Brough came from King-street, and Mrs. Rousby, after having been burned in Long-acre, recovered sufficiently to play in the little comedietta, so popular with amateurs, "Faint Heart Never Won Fair Lady." When Miss Hodson retires, the pretty theatre in Dean-street will, for the first time for many years, be managed by a gentleman. Mr. W. H. C. Nation, who once took Astley's and produced "The Golden Dustman," but who is better known as the editor of a magazine never sufficiently appreciated, the *London*, and the author of some very dainty lyrics, will succeed Miss Hodson. The first novelty will be a two-act comedy by Mr. Westland Marston, an author who has not hitherto condescended to elegant trifles. I hope that Mr. Nation will be careful in the selection of his company. The great drawback of Miss Hodson's reign was the want of a *jeune premier*. The young lovers at the Royalty have for some time past been very discouraging. I look, of course, on Mr. Bishop as an actor of character. He is just as good as the others were bad.

At the LYCEUM the Variétés company is getting along, but a trifle lamely. The performances are light and amusing, but the acting, of course, pales before that of the other house. M. Lesueur, as the old theatrical servant in "Le Copiste," as the nervous father-in-law in "Les Deux Timides," and as the testy and miserly hypochondriac in "Le Mal de la Peur," is wonderfully versatile and invariably excellent. Amongst English actors Mr. John Hare, of the Prince of Wales's, most nearly resembles him. They are both remarkable for extraordinary finish and sudden grasp of character. The programmes at the Lyceum are constantly changed; but each night M. Lesueur is seen in one or other of his favourite characters. M. Grenier and M. Leoncé appear in vaudeville or burlesque; and those who admire pretty faces, sweet voices, and irresistible manner will not be disappointed with the acting and singing of Mlle. Gauthier, Mlle. Legrand, and Mlle. Désiré. The advantage of the Lyceum with the fashionable world appears to be that you can drop in at any period of the evening and can always see an entire, and invariably an amusing, play. In a few days the Variétés company will have departed, and the Lyceum will be given over to the most extravagant of French burlesques.

But why people should go to the Lyceum when they have the Comédie Française at the OPERA COMIQUE I cannot imagine. This is one of the greatest treats we have ever had. Often and often I have taken a pilgrimage to Paris mainly to visit the Théâtre Français, and here we have it at our very doors. M. Göt's performance of Mercadet has been the great event of the week, and I was pleased to find so excellent an audience. This has been one of the few occasions on which the society has released itself from the fetters of classical comedy. Full justice has been done to Molière and Corneille. It must be very irritating to the society to find that at the Lord Chamberlain's office a veto has been put upon "Le Supplice d'une Femme," "Julie," "Dallah," "Paul Forestier," "Maurice de Saxe," and all the comedy triumphs of the Français, when "La Grande Duchesse," "La Belle Hélène," "Barbe Bleue," "La Périole," "Le Beau Dernier," and "La Fleur de Thé" are permitted without a murmur. What is sauce for the goose should surely be sauce for the gander. However, the Lord Chamberlain does not think so; and hence much irritation. The inconsistency of the county magistrates, whose wild inconsequence gives rise to letters in the papers headed "Justices' Justice," is not more irritating than the extraordinary decisions given by the gentleman who is employed to keep an eye on the dramatic food offered to the public, and to seize promptly that which is objectionable. It is no use hoping for any alterations until the House of Commons can find time to legislate afresh concerning the amusements of the metropolis.

Next week a new farce, written expressly for Mr. Sothorn, by Mr. Maddison Morton and Mr. A. W. Young (the well-known actor at the St. James's, and the hero of the "Little Wee Dog"), will be produced at the HAYMARKET.

The late Michael Balfe's opera called "Letty the Basket Maker," which has not been performed for twenty years, is in rehearsal at the GAIETY.

ABOLITION OF FAIRS.—An Act of Parliament has just been passed to amend the law relating to fairs in England and Wales. It recites that certain of the fairs held in England and Wales are unnecessary, are the causes of grievous immorality, and are very injurious to the inhabitants of the towns in which such fairs are held, and it is, therefore, expedient to make provisions to facilitate the abolition of such fairs. The Secretary of State may, on representation of magistrates, with the consent of the owner, order fairs to be abolished, notice of the representation and of the order of the Secretary of State to be published in the newspapers.

COSTLY AMUSEMENT.—The Paris monarchs, who had a bad time of it during the siege, are getting their hands full of work; and it is well known that the Government of Versailles have accepted the services of many of the Poles, Americans, and other strangers who were taken upon a charge of being connected with the Commune, and who are only too glad to be allowed to give what may be called Republican evidence. Arrests are still being made, sometimes on the silliest pretences. The other day some soldiers stationed on the Trocadero got into conversation with the people living in the neighbourhood. The battery which endeavoured to bombard Valerien, and threw its shells into the Seine, was talked of, and the soldiers asked where its exact position had been. A dozen hands immediately pointed to the spot. "And were you not afraid?" asked the sous-officier. "Well," was the answer, "the first day we hid ourselves in the cellar, the second we peeped out, the third we stood outside our door. You see, in these times one gets accustomed to everything." At the end of the week we were standing by the side of the guns as they were being fired off. And, to let you into a secret, I offered one of the artillerymen half a franc, and he allowed me to pull the string. I have pulled lots of them since then at ten sous each, and so have my friends. Unhappy man. In a trice the whole group was surrounded and taken prisoners. They had fired off guns against the troops—they were evidently insurgents. The plea of curiosity only made their case worse; men and women were marched away, whether they had pulled the string at half a franc each or not. They are now probably in a cellar at Versailles, or on their way to some seaport to take their trial. A costly amusement forsooth!

THE BURNING OF PARIS.

Paris, June 2.

Few things are more indescribably grand than some of the large ruins from last week's fire. I have been the round many times, and each time I have returned the remembrance of the ruin of the Hôtel de Ville stands out before all the others. So many of your readers must recollect the site, that it is perhaps hardly necessary to describe the large blocks of houses that occupied the approaches to the large square outside the great door, where stood, three weeks ago, the statue of Henry IV. Following upon the fall of the Vendôme Column, this statue was removed, but the naked eye can still easily make out, on the wall of the recess it stood in, the outline of its form. Those who live opposite to the Place, and who were eye-witnesses of the tragedies all round them, speak now with awe even of the remembrance of nearly every square block in the neighbourhood in flames, with the one great castle in the centre burning from top to bottom. The work was done swiftly and well. No faltering hands laid the petroleum. It is a ghastly sight to-day to see all these blackened gutted houses, and to reflect on the causes and results. These private losses, perhaps, appeal more to the feelings, strike home with greater effect, than even to gaze on the heap of ruins formed by such public buildings as the Tuileries or the Hôtel de Ville. Yet, to stand in the Avenue Victoria and to see the remains of the latter, looking infinitely larger in its ruin than ever it did as a building, is to see a sight that many a pilgrim will journey to this summer. Burnt down to the middle of the first floor, with many of the statues hardly touched by the smoke, and nearly all the tall chimneys still standing, the few fine columns yet remaining looking so slender amid the open space and ruined walls around, this massive memento of the Commune insurrection teaches a lesson it would not be ill if it remained to commemorate. Were I a Frenchman I would wish to preserve the Hôtel de Ville as it is. One loses all thoughts of civic feasts and prefects' balls, of stormy debates and occasional revolutions, that have gone on inside those walls. The excited and sometimes frenzied population that have so many times filled the open square to greet new men, the dense crowd that hailed the formal establishment of a Commune nine weeks ago, and the scores of cannon that were so lately parked there, vanish into a very far past as we see it now, all calm and quiet, laid out, as it were, in state, with nothing but thin smoke yet rising out of the fallen stones. What a sight that big building was on Sunday, Sept. 4 last, when Jules Favre and Gambetta were drawn by the people in a carriage without horses to earn their brief triumph! With what rapture the crowd rushed round the vehicle that shortly afterwards brought Rochefort there, arrayed fantastically in a red scarf! How for days afterwards these politicians and their condutors received ovations all the day long and made orations out of the windows! Especially it remains in my memory how Gambetta and Rochefort were the idols of the hour. One is an exile, after an unprecedented dictatorship; the other a prisoner in danger of death. As singular as the fate of these men—nay, more so—are the positions now occupied by General Trochu and M. Jules Favre. Such reflections irrepressibly suggest themselves as one gazes on this last and striking scene in the panorama of which, since last September, the Hôtel de Ville has been the centre.

It may be interesting briefly to enumerate the public buildings that have been destroyed. The Ministère des Finances, at the extreme end of the Rue Rivoli, is a complete ruin, many of the arches of the long portico that forms the striking feature of the Rue Rivoli being entirely consumed. With regard to the Tuileries, it is, perhaps, hardly so correct to term it a total ruin. The centre and the left pavilion (as we stand facing the front entrance to the garden) are certainly destroyed, as far as the interior goes, the walls only yet standing; but the new Pavillon de Flore, at the right angle with the wing facing the Seine, is by comparison but slightly injured. Externally the damage seems less than it is really inside. Fortunately, the carvings and figures on this new part have escaped; even many of the windows are not hurt; and, though the chief of the roof is uncovered, the main joists still hold. The most striking view of the whole is from the Cour du Carrousel. What must the sight have been if, in addition to the ruined terraces of the palace and the daylight to be seen through every window, the Louvre at our back had also been burnt? Happily, this calamity has been spared, and only the Bibliothèque—great as the loss is—was consumed. In this quarter must be recorded also the loss of the Montpensier wing of the Palais Royal, the residence formerly of Prince Napoleon (Jerome). Of the other public buildings on the same side of the Seine must be enumerated the Casernes Napoléon and Lobau, behind the Hôtel de Ville; the Arsenal and the Grenier d'Abondance, near the Bastille; the partial destruction of the Prince Eugène Barracks in the Château d'Eau, and the Entrepôt des Douanes at Villette.

To visit the rest of the public buildings we must cross the river near Notre Dame. This had a narrow escape. The insurgents intended to make of it a vast bonfire, and have succeeded in defacing a good deal of the inside woodwork. Fortunately, however, they were surprised in the task, and, by the exertions of the officials at the Hôtel Dieu, any further wreck was prevented. It is at the Palais de Justice, at the foot of the Boulevard St. Michel and the corner of the Place Dauphin, that the destruction at this end commences. The new Cour de Cassation and a portion of the old building are entirely gutted. All the old houses in the Rue Jerusalem, forming the head rendezvous of the Paris police, are destroyed. By almost a miracle, the beautiful Gothic Church of Ste. Chapelle has escaped from any damage, notwithstanding the fire surrounded it on three sides. No damage has been done by fire, and only slightly from bombs, to either the Pantheon, the Luxembourg, or St. Sulpice, though the whole neighbourhood had been in a panic for days as to the state of the catacombs of the latter, reported to be filled with powder. Happily, none of these stories have turned out to have foundations. The first effect from fire near St. Sulpice is the Mont-Parnasse Railway station—the Rive Gauche of the Western Railway—which is a complete ruin. This brings us to the Rues de Lille and Du Bac, and a mass of buildings facing the Quai Voltaire, stretching nearly to the Quai d'Orsay, where in a small compass comparatively is collected as much destruction as could possibly be crowded together. The Conseil d'Etat and the Cour des Comptes, really one building, form an imposing and majestic ruin with its spacious courtyard. The great staircases and galleries hardly show traces of where they stood. Part of this building, and also an isolated premise belonging to the Cour des Comptes, were, it is believed, blown up, the more effectually to scatter the valuable financial archives they contained. Then there is the Legion d'Honneur, not so utterly destroyed as the Conseil d'Etat. The south colonnade is comparatively uninjured, and the elegant statues of Justice, Prudence, Honour, &c., that ornamented the sides of the roof, remain unhurt, standing in their eminence on the top of the naked walls as though they protested against all the senseless ruin around them. With the Caserne de Quai d'Orsay completely gutted, terminates the list of public buildings destroyed; but the description in this quarter would be manifestly incomplete without mentioning how this neighbourhood seems especially to have been singled out for its old mansions belonging to the French aristocracy. Who that has seen them does not remember with delight the magnificent old houses—almost châteaux in their way—in the Quartier St. Germain? It would be tedious to give a street-by-street enumeration of these private properties that have been so dealt with, but the fact and the symptom are worth noting. Especially may be mentioned a house in the Rue de Poitiers, where in '49 was held a famous political club, of which M. Thiers, Guizot, and Montalembert were among the principal members.

The churches of Paris have escaped better than could have been supposed. I have already mentioned Notre Dame; others are also named by rumour as having been decided upon for destruction. Among them are St. Sulpice, the Madeleine, and St.

is exaggerated, and nothing set down in malice. Necessarily, in such a work there are sketches of individual character; and these sketches are unexceptionably good. Some of the personages portrayed it is impossible to help liking—such as Tomboy Cherry White, Schoolmaster Woods, Schoolmistress Russett, and general-shop keeper Mrs. Branch. Others we as decidedly dislike—such as deacons Cartwright and Foat, and the malicious epileptic Amelia Luckin; and we think it a mighty pity that the author should have sacrificed a girl like Cherry to save the life of such a disagreeable chit as Amelia, even though a partial reformation in the latter's disposition was the result. Some notion of the character of the community depicted, as well as a slight taste of the quality of the author, may be obtained from the following passage :—

The *Voysey* judgment has produced a great amount of discomfort in the Church of England; and Mr. Brooke—well known as the accomplished biographer of Robertson of Brighton—lets out in these discourses more uneasiness than he (as far as we can judge) had any *intention* of disclosing. The discourses are admirable in their way, and are better at the third reading than at the first. We can sincerely recommend them, but that must not be taken as expressing our agreement with their doctrine of the relations of Church and State.

To mere outsiders it certainly looks as if there must be some intellectual insincerity in all this talk about the "Church" of England, as if it were an entity, and about the effect of recent "judgments," from the Gorham case downward. The Church of England as it exists is the paid servant of the State, bound to teach the doctrines dictated to it by the State. All the casuistry in the world cannot wriggle out of this predicament. As to the "judgments," it is plain that they are the merest accidents. If Sir Roundell Palmer had been Lord Chancellor, there would have been more of what is called "High Church" in even the Voysey judgment, and a totally different tone in the theological conceptions. Lord Chancellor Page Wood being "Evangelical," the judgment happens to be what it is—just happens, and that is all. And we are glad to see that the iron is entering into the souls of certain clergymen. But we should be still more glad to find them upright and downright about these matters. Mr. Voysey had not the least business in the Church of England, nor, in our opinion, has Mr. Stopford Brooke. He is himself of a different opinion, and this is how he makes it all come right to himself:—

The Church ought to demand agreement in certain fundamental doctrines, but not to define the way in which those doctrines must be held; to tolerate every form of opinion on those doctrines which does not absolutely contradict them in a sense to be determined by the law; may, more—not only to tolerate, but to desire such expression, if it represent any phase of English religious thought; to listen to it, though it seem to nine tenths of the members of the Church absurd and heretical; to encourage debate on such views; to remember that the only way to arrive at a final resolution of opinion, is by the clear and free action of the national Church do not represent all the religious ideas of its children, within the most extensive limits consistent with its existence, it is no longer national.

We confess we can extract no sense from this. In the first place, to "demand agreement in certain fundamental doctrines" in religion as the condition of people's receiving certain emoluments and holding certain positions is totally inconsistent with religious freedom, and is putting a premium on stationariness of belief. In the second place, to "demand agreement" in "doctrines," and yet "not to define the way in which those doctrines must be held," is utter nonsense. If you "demand" assent to any proposition whatever, there must be definition, implicit or explicit. In fact, Mr. Brooke's self-contradictory formula is simply a roundabout or oblique assertion of the utter impossibility of defining religious doctrines in terms that shall cover all cases and consist with the changes that time must and always does make. "Certainly" says Mr. Brooke (at least that is what he means); "therefore we must be as 'broad' in our terms as ever we can." This is a very odd inference. "You cannot define at all, and yet retain freedom," says logic. "Just so," say Mr. Brooke and his party; "therefore let us go and define just a *little* bit." For all the casuists in the world cannot get out of the necessity of defining. Nor could they prevent our bringing the whole "broad" business to a *reductio ad absurdum* in a moment. It would be perfectly easy for any man to express a general assent to Christianity, historical and dogmatic, which should bring him within the Articles, and then to "define the way in which he held" his "doctrines" in such a manner as to place himself outside the intention of those Articles. Mr. Voysey is a case in point; but he is a very coarse one. More subtlety of expression might easily have saved him.

If, as by the terms, a certain amount of dogma is necessary to be defined by the secular power as a condition of the "existence" of the Church as a protected and privileged institution, *causa quaestio*; and, whatever Mr. Brooke and his school may fancy, their whole attitude is logically subversive of all belief in the supra-natural. Mr. Brooke says he believes in continuous Divine inspiration. Very good. Is this power a co-ordinated power, or is it not? Does it take its place as concurrent with other social forces, or does it dominate them—i.e., is there or is there not anything in this force which will always ride secure *above* the ordinary currents of life and history? If not, there is an end of your Christianity, in any supernatural sense; and, in fact, the position which your theory assigns to your "Church" as the paid and fettered servant of the State is inconsistent with any faith in Christianity as truly Divine.

The difficulty recurs in other shapes. Mr. Brooke and his school constantly talk of "Humanity" as one, in a way which only shows how easily in some minds a mere poetic figure of speech becomes a solid entity, susceptible of logical treatment. So, again, as to the "nation." There is no such entity, though the theory of the "Broad Church" requires that there should be. There are so many millions of men, women, and children associated more or less closely by ties of race, friendship, and common interest, but "nation" is only a convenient common term, and expresses no fixed and invariable idea cognisable by logic. What is a "Christian nation," some of whose members are Jews, septs, deniers, and children incapable of opinions? Again, if there is political freedom, one member of a Government might be a Jew, another a Secularist, another a Roman Catholic, and another a Presbyterian. Really the thing is unarguable, the case is so obvious. The high Romanist position is consistent; the high Dissenting position is consistent; the Broad Churchman's attitude and the easy-going Dissenter's attitude are equally absurd and untenable. When the Church of Rome says to the State, "I am your Sovereign and shall use your sword," she enunciates the only basis upon which inspiration can join itself to the secular power—i.e., a basis of absolute supremacy. But those who maintain the Broad Church theory are upon an inclined plane which *must* bring them, if they are logical, to the denial of all supernaturalism. The political Dissenter who will boldly push his logic to its issue, and say, right out, that the State has no more right to "establish" Christianity in England than it has to establish Buddhism in India, is the only person who can reconcile faith in the supernatural with social justice and political freedom.

This is a bright book—a very bright book, and has only one fault: a perusal of it puts one in the condition of Oliver Twist—

This is a bright book—a very bright book, and has only one fault: a perusal of it puts one in the condition of Oliver Twist—we want more. We have met Henry Holbeach in literature before, as our readers will probably remember. Then he was “a student in life and philosophy,” now he is a student of life mainly, in which, perhaps, there is as much philosophy as anywhere else; at all events, Mr. Holbeach throws a great deal of philosophy into his study of life. “Shoemakers’ Village” is an account of the sayings and doings of the residents in an otherwise anonymous town, in which there flourishes a Zoar Chapel or congregation of Independents of a very rigidly-particular caste, and the rigid and particular notions of said Zoar people are satirised in a smartly but truthfully and kindly way. In short, we may say that the book is a sort of exposé of the ways and manners of the particularly-good and rigidly-righteous school of Christians, without being in the least degree bitter or unjust. The faults, and especially the intolerance, of that school of Christians are freely criticized; but nothing

Shoemakers' Village is, in fact, a crude, unornamental agglomeration of houses, the rise and collection of which could, no doubt, be related with great ease to the oldest inhabitants, but which has been left, owing to the advances of the polluter portions of the neighbourhood to which it bangs on like a shed to a mansion. In those polluter neighbourhoods it is known as the Village, or less elegantly, though more frequently, the Willage. When the working-man gets up cross, and sits down to his breakfast glum, the watchful house-mother says to the Tilly Slowboy of the ménage,

Wadhwa House—happet says me fairly slowdy or the hedgehog, the fish, the Saddle, and you may see it and got to bed on the wrong side again. You join up to the Village, and you get a haddock, you want a relish—and you can pay next time. It is one of the moral superstitions of the Village Proper and the Village Improper, or, as we may say, the Inner and the Outer Village—or, again, the Village and the Village—that, when a man gets up cross he wants a relish. The Village, then, has quite a reputation for “bloaters,” and “haddicks,” and “rashers,” and everything in the nature of a “relish”—eggs (called heggys by the villagers), and watercresses (known in the community as cresses). To such an extent is the great relish system carried in the Village that I have heard of a little chit of a girl from the Village, engaged to help another servant in the house-work at a ‘place’ outside of the Village, giving her mistress notice because she’d always been accustomed to her relish at breakfast every morning, and couldn’t heat it small without it. In the Village Proper—i.e., the Village—there is one small coffee-shop in particular, much frequented, I believe, by working-men attached to the railway extensions, and other men of the kind who have to get up early; and in the window of that shop I once saw written up in big, gaudy pieces of colored paper, the words:—“No more haddock or gray pie will be cooked at this shop.” Now the inference I drew was that the surrounding male population had been in the habit of taking into this shop salt fish, haddock, or herring, for their dinner, and getting it cooked for nothing, on the strength of buying a cup of coffee or something of that kind; but that this kind of business had at last become as excessive as it must always have been unremunerative.

But we advise our readers to get the book; they will be sure to like it, even those of them who chance to belong to the order of Particular Christians, if they be not so very thin skinned as to be offended with the kindly sarcasms it contains.

Annals of Our Time: A Diurnal of Events, Social and Political, Home and Foreign, from the Accession of Queen Victoria, June 20, 1837. By JOSEPH IRVING. London: Macmillan and Co.

This is a new edition, carefully revised and brought down to the Peace of Versailles, of a work which has already commended itself to public favour as an admirable, though brief, chronicle of the times in which we live. The compiler has taken great pains to make this issue as complete as possible, and the result is a most valuable and useful book of reference. Much of the work has been entirely rewritten, and all of it has been greatly expanded and improved, as may be inferred from the fact that whereas the last edition extended to 734 pages, the present contains 1033 pages. In noting this circumstance we are reminded of a curious slip the author makes in his preface. He says, "The obituary notices alone have been extended from 425 pages in the first edition to above 1000 in the present." One would naturally infer from this that the book contains 1000 pages of obituary notices; but, as this is impossible, the author must mean either that he has given 1000 obituary notices, or that such notices appear on, without fully occupying, 1000 pages. We ought to add that a capital index is appended, a most valuable feature in such a work.

Memorials of Charles Parry, Commander Royal Navy. By His Brother, EDWARD PARRY, D.D., Suffragan Bishop of Dover
London: Strahan and Co.

This is the record of the life—almost of the daily life—of a young naval officer who, being serious, devout, and, as it appears, rejoicing with the joy of unaffected piety, endeavoured to devote himself to the religious improvement of those around him while he was engaged in regular, and frequently in arduous, professional duties. In this high and difficult intention he appears to have succeeded until his early death, which was so sudden that he may be said to have carried on his work to the last day of his life.

To many readers books of this kind are not acceptable. There is a kind of constitutional shrinking from the revelation of a personal diary whenever it contains the records of life of the soul: an instinctive fear that such an opening of what to many men are spiritual secrets, of which they dare scarcely trust their own sincerity to speak, may, sooner or later, represent a kind of malady. This feeling and these fears are not unfounded when we remember many published religious diaries and several posthumous biographies published by bereaved friends who seem to desire to derive some reflected advantage from thus describing what is, after all, no very uncommon condition of a sincere and earnest, if weak and self-conscious, Christian. We think we may say, however, that the reader need be under no such apprehension with these memoirs of the young naval Cadet, Lieutenant, and Commander, whose cheerful, simple goodness caused him to be beloved by many friends, and the brotherly record of whose career will be very acceptable to a number of people who find their own hearts touched and purified by such particulars as it contains.

Mental Flights. By CAROLINE GIFFARD PHILLIPSON. London: Chapman and Hall.

Kimbolton Castle and Lady Jane Grey. By ARMA GREYE.
London: 34, Southampton-street, Strand.

Of the first of these two volumes we have little to say that might not be comprised in the words, "Don't do it again!" We are unfeignedly sorry to have to deprecate the repetition of an entire "volume of verse, political and sentimental," when it is written by a lady; but these "Mental Flights" would, we think, have been more useful in exercising the wings of the imagination if their rather ineffectual flutterings had been exhibited only to "two partial friends, or had been confined to the pages of a domestic album.

In "Kimbolton Castle and Lady Jane Grey" there is at least (if the old axiom be accepted) "the soul of wit," for they occupy only a hundred widely-printed and large-margined pages. There are passages here and there that suggest ability to do something better; but these dramatic sketches are little more than prose of a weakish kind put into the form of blank verse in the mouths of the characters who are the *dramatis personæ*. The little book, however, seems to be a subscription volume, and therefore may not be held answerable to the canons of ordinary criticism.

THE LATE MRS. CHARLES MACLAREN, widow of Charles Maclaren, at one time editor of the *Scotsman*, has bequeathed £2500 to found a scholarship connected with the University of Edinburgh, £200 to the Royal Infirmary, and £200 to the United Industrial Schools. The scholarship is to be called "The Charles Maclaren Scholarship."

THE PUBLIC HEALTH.—The deaths from smallpox in the metropolis during the week ending last Saturday are reported by the Registrar-General to have undergone a diminution, as compared with the previous week, of 28. The deaths in the last six weeks respectively have been 261, 288, 232, 207, 257, and 229. The annual rates of mortality, from all causes, per 1,000 of the population in the following places were: Leicester, 14; Nottingham and Wolverhampton, 6; Portsmouth and Norwich, 17; Sheffield, 19; Manchester, Bradford, and Hull, 20; Bristol, Birmingham, and Leeds, 21; London, 22; Liverpool and Dublin, 27; Sunderland and Newcastle-on-Tyne, 28; Edinburgh, 32; Salford, 34; and Glasgow, 36.

Vincent de Paul. To none, however, has serious damage come, St. Eustache, in the Place des Halles. Struck by a shell, roof caught fire, and the face of the outer walls is much injured by shrapnel fire. I have not been inside, so cannot say what damage done there; but there are good reasons for believing the fire was accidental, and not the work of incendiarism. The church of St. Jean, in the Boulevard Sebastopol, and St. Charles, near the Hotel de Ville, have also suffered from bombs. So far so good, however, as the churches, two theatres have not been destroyed—the Lyrique and the Porte St. Martin. I must also mention that among the mass of private property destroyed are some large drapery establishments, notably one near the Chateau d'Eau, and one at the bottom of the Boulevard des Capucines. English visitors accustomed to the neighbourhood of Paris will almost shrink back in horror also when they go to the Rue Royale and see the destruction there, including the restaurant. In a year the street will probably be more handsome and better built than before. The National Assembly voted 100,000*fr.* to a commission to inquire into the sites of the destroyed buildings, and to find out the best means of rebuilding. Already the surveyors are going from house to house, ascertaining the damage that has been done by shot and shell as well as by fire.—*Times*, 1st of "Daily News."

the old friend with a new face, or rather with a face
into an unhealed of shape. Here is the great city, the
of fashion and of folly, with grim traces all over it of a
strife. There are broken windows by the million, and
have been knocked off the house walls by tens of millions,
of the historical buildings are gone for ever. There are
in the iron shutters, and dents showing in the
pavement, and patrols of French regulars passing up and
the streets with ceaseless vigilance. You could not fancy
back again in the days of the Empire, unless you went
to the time when the Empire began. For years and years
the countrymen have flocked to Paris, and have found nothing
this. They have found plenty of soldiers, but not the look of
business which now prevails in the War Department; they
have found the people held to principles of order by force, but
not, as now, still panted with recent exertion. To those who ex-
pect to crawl into a cab over heaps of ruins, and be arrested at
every turn, Paris may seem tamely quiet. But to those who re-
member the great city in its palmy days there is a strange battered
look about their ancient friend.

We must guard ourselves against exaggeration. Parisian society has rallied from the shock of the civil war no far as to be in Paris once again. But here are bullet marks and shell marks. The Tuileries is in ruins; so is the Hôtel de Ville. The column in the Place Vendôme has disappeared from the scene, and many buildings on the south side of the Seine are completely ruined. It is almost by a miracle that the Sainte Chapelle has escaped destruction, for the Palais de Justice, close at hand, was smothered with fire. In the very midst of the English quarter of Paris, at the corner of the Rue Royale and the Rue du Faubourg Saint Honoré, the part best known to our travelling Britons, there are heaps of rubbish still encumbering the thoroughfare, and the tenement-houses to the right and left to tell of the flight in the end of May. There is no need to exaggerate by a hair's breadth to describe this as one of the most wonderful destructions of public monuments and private property ever achieved. And yet for all that we find that the city is by no means destroyed. Whilst the ruins still smoke, and the workmen are still busy clearing away the wreck, the human life of Paris has rushed back into its accustomed channel. The shops, with bullet marks thick upon them, display a tempting show of goods; the cafés along the boulevards are full of well-dressed patrons, despite their broken glass and shattered shutters; and the throng of foot passengers upon the pavement is almost as thick as of yore. We may notice an absence of private carriages, but we can scarcely complain that omnibuses are scarce. We may remark that the upper class seems hardly represented, but here is the bourgeoisie in full force. There are little stamers plying busily on the Seine, and carts full of furniture making for the outskirts of the city, and people of all sorts, from the upper middle to the lowest workmen, settling down into their accustomed grooves. A few hundred houses are destroyed, and several well-known public buildings, and the storm has left its traces far and wide; but thousands upon thousands of houses remain unharmed. The Bank of France, the Louvre, the great hotels, and the bridges over the Seine remain, and sound. So is the stately cathedral of Notre Dame, and so are the Pantheon and the Invalides. The Egyptian obelisk in the Place de la Concorde has not a scratch upon it, and even the arch-shielded Arc de Triomphe, which towers up at the top of the Champs Elysées, is very little injured. When we contrast the actual Paris, now full of reviving hope and bustle, with the gloomy picture of ruins which some have pictured at a distance, there is a greater gulf between the Paris of the Empire and the city now before us.

Frenchmen are pouring back by thousands to resume their former life in the capital, and the irrepressible Briton arrives in a steadily-increasing stream. The more strangers the better for Paris. "Come one, come all!" is the cry of the impoverished citizens. You must know that it is safe and easy to come, and then, perhaps, you will try the excursion yourself. Be sure to obtain a passport, and to have it duly countersigned by the French authorities in England; take your ticket for Paris, step into the train, and here you are. The only troubles likely to arise will be cleared away by showing an English passport—and at the worst a guide-book, a white hat, and, if possible, red whiskers, will smooth over every difficulty. Every French official remembers the true type of l'Anglais en voyage, and will welcome him. L'Anglais en voyage is not a Federal. He is a safe man, who brings the money so much needed in Paris to renew her trade. There is no need to point ever-gloriously at ruins which he may find, and shout to Jack or Tom, "I say, here's a glorious smash!" But he may see everything worthy of attention, and note the curious revival of Parisian life, without the least danger or annoyance. The city is once again open to all the world. Those patrols in the street will not harm foot-passers-by; and even if we should prefer to be left undisturbed in the café until after eleven o'clock at night, it is no such dreadful hardship to have to keep early hours. Mind to do whatever the majority wish. That is your great stand-by in way of advice. Mind, also, to keep in the middle of the street when the warning cry comes, *Au large!* They are still afraid of petroleum, and the society is in earnest in what he says.

FIRST COMMISSIONS BY PURCHASE.—A Parliamentary return shows the number of gentlemen who have been appointed by purchase to regiments of Cavalry and Esquads who passed their examinations in the year 1870 and the amount paid for the commissions. In the Household Cavalry the appointments were made, and £2,780 was paid for the commissions; the Cavalry of the Line, 241,400 being paid, £900 being paid; in the Foot Guards, 21,000 appointments, £11,400 being paid; in the Infantry of the Line, 1,300 appointments, £19,350 being paid. The total is sixty appointments, £34,430 being paid for the commissions.

THE FAMINE IN PERSIA.—The famine in some parts of Persia is (says the *London paper*) severe beyond comprehension. Grain was for long hoped for; but it came in very measured quantity, and too late to turn the tide, which was already at the door. Thousands are said to have died of the effects of their starvation, or of starvation coupled with the effects of the plague which is in its train. Most of the dead lie unburied—being regarded as the sure precursor of pestilence. At first, the question by any means whatever became a question to be solved; but the former alternative prevailed with the Mussulman; and the human being is said to have been killed and eaten by his fellow-men. There have come to a worse pass still: fathers and mothers have been seen to eat their own children. It is stated that the sights to be seen in the neighbourhood of Shiraz are such that the sight of a dead body leaves their houses. Also, between Shiraz



THE WEASELS' NEST.—(PICTURE BY C. F. DIERKER)

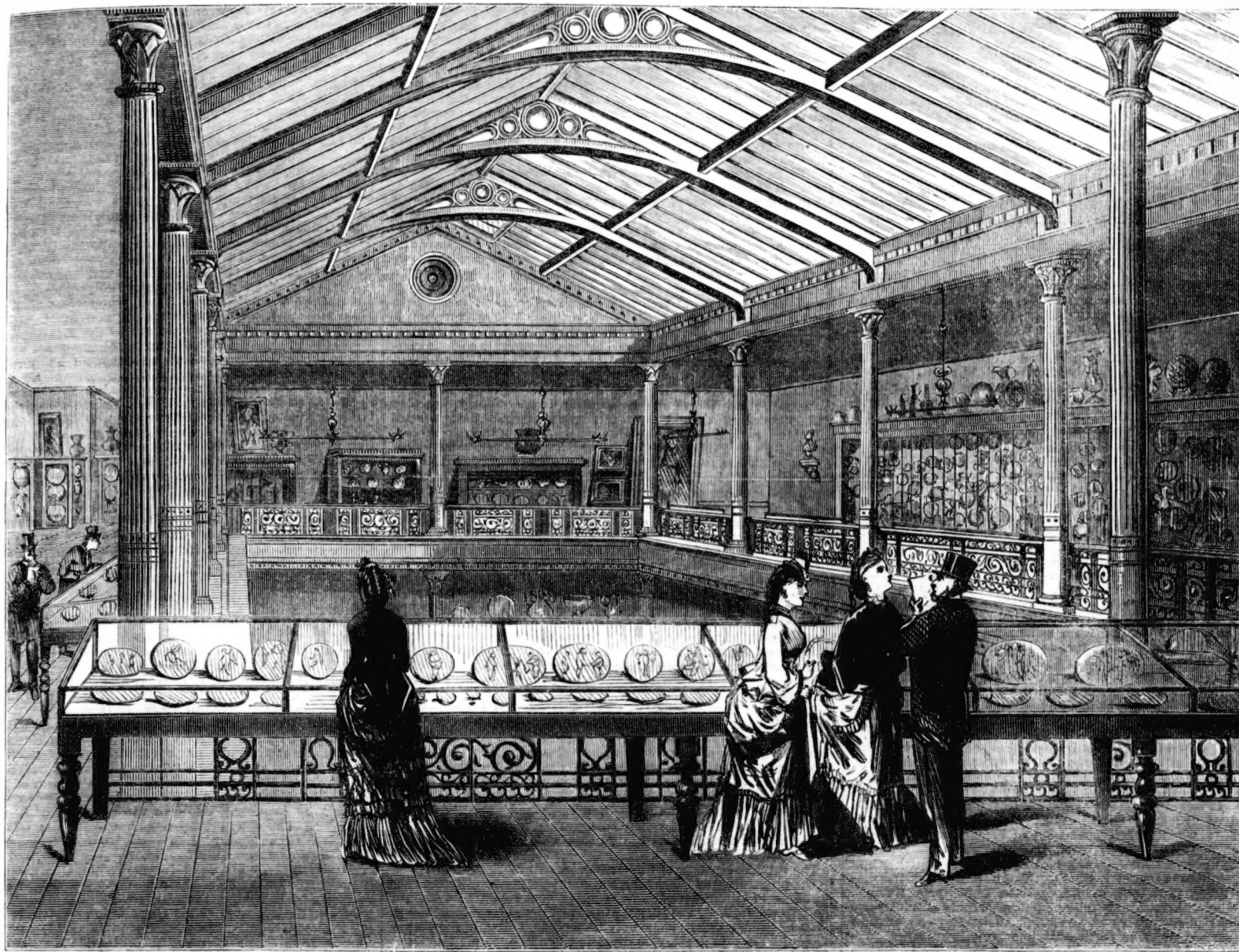
THE WEASELS' NEST.

We have recently had to say a word or two about trapping foxes, in reference to an Illustration published a week or two ago, and our Engraving in the present Number refers to quite a different "kind of vermin," whose depredations on the fowl-roost and the poultry-house are to some extent compensated by its services in the barn and the stackyard. If the weasel kills chicks and sucks eggs, it also destroys rats, and with brave determination will stick even to a large antagonist as long as its formidable prongs of teeth can fasten in its throat. This little animal, itself no longer and

considerably less in height than a big rat, is so fierce and combative that six of its species have been known to follow a man with the apparent intention of attacking him; while there is a story told of another of these creatures which was seized by an eagle and carried aloft in its talons. Presently the royal bird was seen to exhibit symptoms of extreme uneasiness, and ultimately to droop in its flight and descend towards the ground. The weasel had contrived so to twist its supple body as to shift its position in the eagle's claw, and to make a dart at the feathered neck above it. In went the sharp incisors, and the prey had the best of it,

since it clung there till its antagonist relaxed his hold and brought it close to the ground, when it contrived to make its escape.

With sharp claws and short legs for climbing trees, from which its brown colour renders it not easy to be distinguished, the animal has little difficulty in reaching its nest in some hole where small birds, rats, and mice afford abundant game, its rapid movements in seizing which probably suggested the burden of that popular song of which the weasel is the subject.



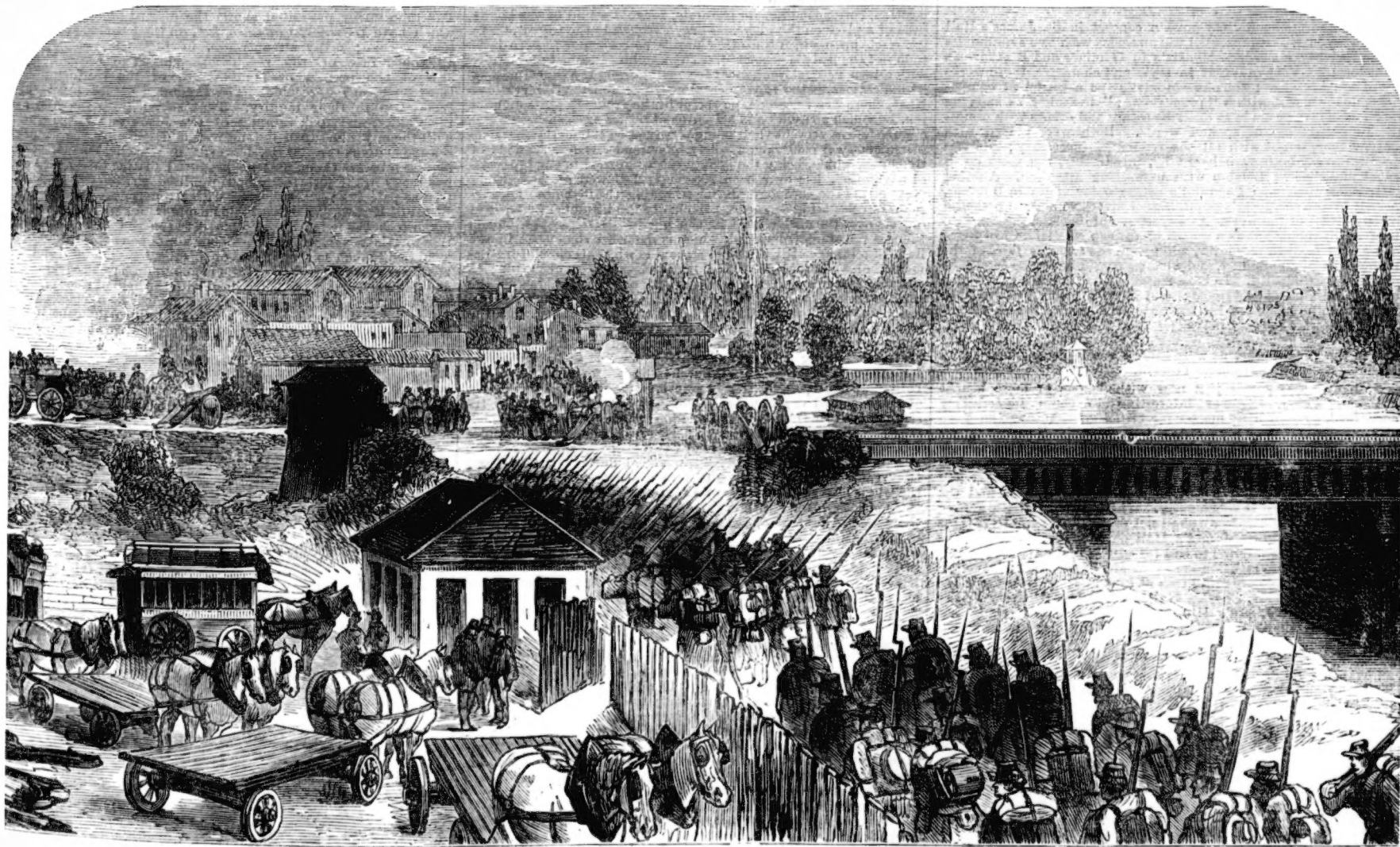
THE MAYER COLLECTION, LIVERPOOL MUSEUM.

THE MAYER COLLECTION IN THE LIVERPOOL MUSEUM.

ONE of the most interesting features in the Liverpool museum is a unique collection, comprising art-relics from the Egyptian era down to the productions of the renowned Wedgwood, whose ware may be taken as representative of that perfection obtained where artistic is combined with manufacturing talent. This collection is contained in a wing of the Liverpool Museum and Free

Public Library, and occupies the ground floor and two galleries. It was presented to the town in 1867 by Mr. Joseph Mayer, a gentleman carrying on the business of a goldsmith in Liverpool, and it was opened for permanent exhibition on June 10 in that year. Since that period it has attracted the attention of all admirers of the antique, who cannot fail to find subjects of engrossing interest in this work of a lifetime. The ground floor is devoted to Egyptian and Assyrian antiquities, and the first gallery to Anglo-Saxon and

ancient British remains; but the great feature of the Mayer bequest occupies the upper gallery, wherein is arranged one of the most perfect collections of pottery in the United Kingdom, including an immense variety of fine specimens of Wedgwood ware from the beautiful designs of Flaxman. We present a view of this gallery, and in the foreground of the drawing are a number of table-cases, containing medallions in the celebrated blue-and-white jasper ware of Josiah Wedgwood in figures in bas-relief



THE FRENCH CIVIL WAR: FIGHTING AT ASNIERES.—(SEE PAGE 356).

and alto-relievo. In the other table-cases running round the gallery are Wedgwood medals and Saxon, Roman, Danish, and old English remains found upon the beach of Cheshire. In the upright cases commencing at the left of our Engraving are specimens of majolica ware of great rarity; and hanging upon the wall are three models in terra-cotta by the late John Gibson, R.A., the subjects being "Hebe," "Psyche Reclining," and "Cleopatra." These, from the beauty of the modelling and the fame of the modeller, cannot be over-estimated in value. Then follow cases of Oriental porcelain, five rare Chinese vases, foreign potteries, and, at the end of the room, old Liverpool pottery, for which the town was noted about a hundred years ago. On the right-hand side of the gallery are wares—English mediæval, English delft, early Staffordshire, Staffordshire earthenware, and other potteries, including some specimens of manufacture by the donor's own family. There is a project for the building of a large school of art on ground adjoining the Free Library, and when that edifice is erected the Mayer collection will be removed to larger and more commodious rooms; but at present it remains in the old quarters.

MUSIC.

SUCH interest as belongs to operatic doings attaches itself just now more to the performances at Drury Lane than to those at Covent Garden. It is true that the last three nights of the present week witness a change from the "repetitions" which have lately been the rule with Mr. Gye; but, setting aside the production of "L'Etoile du Nord" on Thursday, of "L'Africaine" on Friday, and of "Un Ballo in Maschera" to-night, there is nothing to call for remark. Mr. Mapleson, on the other hand, has been very busy with a detachment of new artists, unannounced in the prospectus, and for whose coming nobody looked. On Thursday week he put forward a new Marguerite—Mlle. Pauline Canissa; a new Faust—M. Capoul; and a new Mephistopheles—Signor Rives; following up this coup by introducing, on the following Saturday, a new Bertram—M. Belval—in "Robert le Diable." Mlle. Canissa hails from the "States," where, we have been told, she is much esteemed, and her appearance was heralded by the usual reports of "wire-pullers." But it did not take long to disappoint such hopes as may have been excited in ingenious or sanguine minds. Mlle. Canissa can neither sing nor act up to even a tolerable standard of merit, and the début was an utter failure. As her name no longer appears in the cast, this is enough said. M. Capoul, the noted tenor of the Parisian Opéra Comique, sustained his reputation both as actor and singer; though in neither respect was he free from serious faults. His dramatic "business" was exaggerated, for example, and his singing showed a supreme contempt for ordinary ideas of time. Nevertheless, M. Capoul acts gracefully, even when he acts too much; and his singing, when most erratic, is, in all other respects, the singing of an artist. In quality of voice and style of delivery M. Capoul is essentially French; while the besetting sin of French tenors—the vibrato—often mars his efforts. He will, however, be a notable acquisition to Mr. Mapleson's Italian stage, and can hardly fail to influence greatly the fortune of the season. Signor Rives, another Frenchman—the "Signor" notwithstanding—was suffering from so severe a cold that an apology had to be made on his account. It would be unfair, therefore, to judge him in the least degree adversely; and we shall only say that he gave promise of much ability when in full possession of his means. M. Belval, a basso profondo from the Grand Opéra of Paris, made a most favourable début, thanks to a voice exceptional in its quality and compass, and to a manner which, though it did not indicate a great actor, was always appropriate, sometimes forcible. On the whole, then, Mr. Mapleson has materially strengthened his troupe, and may carry on the season to a better end than at one time seemed possible. Mlle. Marimon very injudiciously appeared in "La Sonnambula," on Tuesday, when suffering from a cold which prevented her reaching the high notes of a part which abounds in notes that are highest. Hence a most regrettable and needless failure. Has the lady no adviser able to save a really good artist from professional suicide? Returning to the performance of "Robert le Diable," in which M. Belval appeared, we must express admiration at the general excellence manifested. With Mlle. Irma di Murska as Isabella, Mlle. Titians as Alice, Mlle. Fioretti as Elena, and Signor Nicolini as Robert, the chief characters were in good hands; while the band, chorus, and stage appointments showed clearly enough that great attention had been given to preparatory measures. "Robert le Diable" was repeated on Thursday; "Lucia" was to be given last night; and for this evening the opera announced is "Faust," with Mlle. Leon-Duval as Marguerite.

The Philharmonic Society gave a concert in St. James's Hall on Monday last, and presented the audience with two symphonies of the very highest order—Mozart's in G minor and Beethoven's "Pastoral." Very different in style and character, these works are of equal interest; the one—Mozart's—as a model of composition unassociated with a "programme;" the other as showing how music may be made to describe scenes and events with almost the suggestiveness of spoken words. Both were played with great vigour, if not with all the refinement necessary; and it is needless to say both were heard by, presumably, the most cultivated audience in London with unflinching attention. Another interesting item was Paganini's concerto for violin in B minor, played by the composer's pupil, Signor Sivori, who alone possesses a copy (MS.) of the work. As a specimen of its class, the concerto is of small value, but as a means of display its claims are high. We gather from it, moreover, what were the *tours de force* of the renowned Italian violinist, and what he considered to be the limits of executive difficulty. In both respects there is much to astonish even those who expect most; and Signor Sivori deserved the highest compliments for his masterly performance. The accompaniments were roughly played; but as nobody cared much about them nobody grumbled. Weber's "Euryanthe" overture was also in the programme, as were several vocal pieces, intrusted to Madame Sinico and Madame Trebelli.

Scarcely a day passes just now without one or more benefit concerts, which, however interesting to those immediately concerned, present little matter for criticism. Among the more attractive was that of Signor Arditi, given in the Hanover-square Rooms, on Friday week. The estimable chef-d'orchestre was supported by a full band, and brought forward a new selection, arranged from Wagner's "Lohengrin." Music so novel and striking could not fail to make a great impression, and the audience applauded it vehemently. Whether the applause sprang from surprise or pleasure we shall not pretend to say. Herr Ganz gave his concert in St. James's Hall on Monday, but there was nothing in the programme to call for special remark.

It may be well to mention here that Mr. Sydney Smith's recitals of pianoforte music are still given at intervals; and that, for the strictly classical, Mr. Charles Hallé is "at home" every Friday afternoon in St. James's Hall. A public "bored" by benefit concerts will thank us for reminding them where a change is obtainable.

ROYAL HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY.—Amongst the plants exhibited on Wednesday we noticed especially pelargoniums (Sir C. Napier and Janthe), the latter of which has something of the blue shade which is so conspicuous in Claude Lorraine and its varieties. Mr. Bull had an interesting group of Liliaceæ, and there were some interesting varieties of ferns, especially *Polypodium vulgare* Whytel, which is a very striking plant. At the general meeting in the afternoon Mr. Bateman presided; and amongst the council were Professor Reichenbach, of Hamburg; Professor Morren, of Liege; M. Doucet, delegate from the Belgian Government; M. Cor Van der Maren, Commissioner from Belgium; M. Wantier, delegate of the Central Horticultural Society of Paris; M. Marabot, delegate of the Horticultural Society of Rouen. The following candidates were elected Fellows, viz.:—Mrs. Charles Daxat, Mrs. Kingsmill; Captain Maxse, R.N.; John Newton, Miss J. L. Reynolds, Alex. Royer, the Marquis of Salisbury, Lady Shelley, Joseph Woodcock, the Archbishop of York, and the Seinton Amateur Floral Society, &c.

A GATHERING OF ASTRONOMERS.

Two centuries ago, when the extension of navigation consequent upon the passing of the famous Navigation Act rendered it necessary to find ready means of ascertaining the longitude at sea, our national Observatory at Greenwich was founded; and John Flamsteed, appointed by the King's warrant to the post of "Royal Observer," was commanded "to apply himself with the utmost care and diligence to the rectifying the tables of the motions of the heavens, and the places of the fixed stars," to the end that the above-mentioned necessity should be speedily supplied. After Flamsteed had spent thirty-five years in the arduous and conscientious discharge of his trust, difficulties arose regarding the supervision of his office and the direction of his labours. Complaints were made by Sir Isaac Newton and others that they could not extract any information from him, although he had accumulated a vast store of valuable and immediately needful observations. The consequence was the appointment of a Commission of leading men of science, as a board of visitors, to examine the Observatory periodically, "to order and direct our astronomer to make such observations as they in their judgment think proper, to survey and inspect our instruments," to demand copies of the observations every six months, and duly to make reports thereon to the Board of Ordnance. The summary powers conferred on these visitors were at one time pretty generally exercised, and unseemly disputes were of frequent occurrence, possibly engendered by the litigious character of Flamsteed and his enmity towards Newton, who was President of the Commission.

The visitors of to-day have the same powers as their predecessors of old, according to the Royal warrant appointing them, in which the original wording has been to some extent preserved. But times have changed, and domination is needless. The Astronomer Royal and his nominal supervisors work together with *entente cordiale*, and the representations which the latter are called upon to make to the Government are generally recommendations and indorsements of the Royal Observer's plans. The official visits are paid yearly, on the first Saturday in June. One of them, therefore, took place on Saturday afternoon last, not in the evening or at night, as might be thought more appropriate. The members of the board, as at present constituted, are the Presidents of the Royal and the Royal Astronomical Societies, with five Fellows of each body, and the holders of astronomical chairs at Oxford and Cambridge. It has of late been the custom for the chairman to invite some two or three hundred of the élite of science and its friends to assemble at the Observatory on these occasions, to meet the visitors and to view the establishment, which is ordinarily closed against such spectators as have not some astronomical knowledge to discern its ends and comprehend its means. Sightseers are bored by what they do not understand; and the major part of the equipment of such an Observatory as Greenwich is utterly bewildering to an ordinary mind. Its doors, however, are always open to those who desire to enter with any higher object than idle curiosity.

These June meetings are in effect astronomical conversations. Some join them to see people, others to see things. The whole of the instrument-rooms are thrown open; all is put into exhibition order. There is a great deal to be looked at, and he who looks carefully and gives any attention to the report of the year's labours, which at the close of the day is put into his hands, will come to the conclusion that there are few Government establishments out of which such a mass of earnest and valuable work is wrought in return for a sum so mean as that which appears in the Navy Estimates as the portion voted to the Greenwich Observatory.

The principal labours of the Greenwich astronomers are directed to the prosecution of those long series of exact observations of the positions of celestial bodies from which numerical tables of their motions are formed, in order that the positions of those bodies in years or generations to come may be predicted with unflinching accuracy. They do not try to discover planets or to pick up stray comets; nor do they as a regular duty pursue such pleasant paths of research as those which the spectroscope has opened out. There is abundant amateur and casual energy for such purposes. But the severe work for mensurative astronomy, the formation of catalogues of stars, the following of planets and satellites to detect inequalities of motion which may have centuries for periods—these fundamental works of astronomy can only be executed by a systematic course of labour that nothing short of national resources could provide. The most important instruments at Greenwich are therefore those peculiar to mensurative astronomy. There is, first, the transit, mounted like a gun on trunnions, which, by a cobweb at its focus, marks the meridian at whatever point of the sky it is directed; the instant of passage of any body across the cobweb being one ordinate of that body's position, corresponding, for example, to what would be the longitude of a place on the globe. Then, attached to the transit, there is a circle upon which the other ordinate—corresponding to latitude—of the body is measured. This combined transit and circle, with all the needful appliances for maintaining the exactitude of its indications, is the fundamental instrument of the Observatory. Next, there is a telescope, powerful in the accuracy of its mounting, by which altitudes and azimuths of bodies are measured when circumstances prevent their being observed on the meridian. This instrument was constructed solely to extend the observations of the moon, which, being the body most concerned in the processes of navigation, has ever been rigorously followed at Greenwich. Next comes the chronograph, for recording the instants of occurrence of celestial phenomena, principally the instants of transit of objects over the spider lines in the measuring telescopes. Then there is the great equatorial, which is regarded somewhat in the light of a luxury at Greenwich, since it is with this class of instrument that what may be called *fancy* observations are made; to wit, observations with the spectroscope, or gazing studies of the surface features of the sun, moon, and planets. Nevertheless many matters of metrical astronomy have to be pursued with the equatorial, and the one at the Observatory is therefore, by its dimensions, the stability of its mounting, and the perfection of its measuring circles and micrometers, especially adapted for these. The great equatorial has an object-glass of nearly 13 in. aperture, and its mounting is a fine specimen of astronomical engineering. There are at Greenwich two instruments of this class of smaller dimensions. Immediately beneath the dome which carries this large instrument is a fireproof room in which the chronometers of the Royal Navy are stored and tested; for, as if the purely astronomical duties of "our Royal Observer" and his assistants were not sufficiently engrossing, the whole charge of *upwards of a thousand chronometers*, including their purchase, their rating, the dealings with makers concerning their repairs, &c., has progressively grown upon the Greenwich establishment. Two hundred chronometers were ticking in this room on Saturday afternoon; about 150 of them were regular service instruments, and the rest were undergoing competitive trial for purchase. Then there was to be seen the roots of that elaborate system of time-distribution by which Greenwich time is flashed over England every day. A galvanic clock effects this automatically, and this clock is never allowed to err much from true time. It is corrected before ten a.m. every morning, by means of observations of stars made during the previous night. At ten o'clock exactly it sends an instantaneous signal to the telegraph office in Moorgate-street. Here, by a beautiful arrangement of switches, which have automatically cut off all speaking instruments a few moments before, and put every trunk wire into virtual connection with the Greenwich wire, the signal passes in a score of directions and ramifies into every telegraph-office in the land that is important enough to need Greenwich mean time. The same clock drops time-balls at Greenwich and at Deal, and maintains some half a dozen other clocks about the Observatory in electric sympathy with its accurate self.

We pass to the department devoted to magnetism and meteorology, where the movements of sensitive magnetic needles and the fluctuations of thermometers and barometer are being recorded night and day unceasingly by a pencil of light upon sheets

of photographic paper. Thermometers there are, too, which tell the temperature of the soil at successive depths down to 24 ft.; and rain-gauges which measure the variations of rainfall at various heights above the surface of the ground. And, in connection with this department, we see upon the top of the building a wind-vane, that is also perpetually marking its veerings; and two other wind-gauges, one of which records the pressure of every gust that blows and the other the velocity with which breezes flow and hurricanes rush.

Some novelties exhibited on this occasion deserve special mention. One was an elaborate vertical telescope, 3 ft. long, with its tube filled with water, prepared for the purpose of determining whether the aberration of the rays of light from a fixed star is affected by the passage of those rays through a considerable extent of refracting medium—a question that has lately been raised, and one which, while it has an astronomical importance, bears also upon the theory of light. A new sidereal clock, with novel compensation for temperature changes, was another new feature; and, lastly, there were the important preparations for the transits of Venus over the Sun's disc, in 1874. This rare phenomenon offers an opportunity of determining a most fundamental astronomical datum—the distance of the sun; and the astronomers of all nations are making preparations for its observation. England is taking the lead, thanks to the energetic foresight of the Astronomer Royal, who formed his plans two or three years ago, decided upon the stations (five in number) to be occupied by British observers, obtained the Treasury authority for the expenditure of £10,000 upon the observations, secured a portion of the grant for immediate disbursement, and forthwith began to purchase and plan the requisite instruments. Each station will have three observatories: one containing an equatorial of 6 in. aperture, another a transit of 4 in. aperture, the third an altitude instrument. The last two will be for determining the latitude and longitude of the station, and for obtaining accurate time; the first will be used for observing the phenomenon. Clocks and smaller telescopes will complete the equipment of each station. On Saturday specimens of each instrument were shown, the transit and altitude instruments being mounted in their portable observatories ready for the practice of those who will make the observations. We believe the observers will be scientific officers of the Army and Navy, several of whom have already volunteered their services. The five British stations at present selected are Alexandria, Honolulu, Rodrigues Island, Auckland, and Kerguelen's Island.—*Daily Telegraph*.

POLLUTION OF RIVERS.

THE inquiry into the best means of preventing the pollution of rivers has now extended over some years. In 1865 a Royal Commission was issued, intrusting the task to Mr. R. Rawlinson, Mr. J. T. Harrison, and Mr. J. T. Way, and they presented reports on the Thames, the Lea, and the Aire and Calder. In 1868 a new Commission was directed to Sir W. T. Denison, Dr. E. Frankland, and Mr. J. Chalmers Morton, and they presented, in 1870, a report on the Mersey and Ribble basins (seats of the cotton manufacture), and a report on the "A B C" process of treating sewage. They have now issued their third report, which treats of pollution arising from the woollen manufactures: a volume of evidence is to follow. Their fourth report, which may be expected to be issued very soon, will relate to the pollution of river basins in Scotland. There will then remain the inquiry relating to the pollution from mining, iron manufacture, metallurgy, paper manufacture, starch manufacture, and breweries, and the subject of water supply. The Commissioners hope to complete their work in the course of next year. The report on the woollen manufactures, recently issued, is signed only by Dr. Frankland and Mr. Morton, but it had the approval of the Chief Commissioner, though he did not live to sign it. The Commissioners abide by the definitions they gave in their first report of liquids which ought to be deemed polluting, and not admissible into any stream, save only that, where necessary, exceptional permission must be given allowing excessive rainfall, or "storm water," as it is technically called, to flow directly into streams without cleansing. The Commissioners repeat their recommendation that the casting of any solid matters into running streams be prohibited, and also the discharge into them of polluting liquids after the allowance of a reasonable time for the erection of purification works. The late Sir W. Denison proposed to place rivers and streams under the care of the several local boards, with a certain superintendence by county or provincial boards; the other Commissioners prefer a national central board (which should also exercise a surveillance over the water supply of towns), free from local prejudice or personal influence, and legislating for all seats of industry alike. The report now presented shows the disgusting state of rivers which have factories, tanneries, &c., on their banks, and receive town sewage; many streams are, in fact, the receptacles of all the refuse of the neighbourhood. The account given also of the process of manufacture of the cloth we wear is by no means agreeable. The Commissioners did not spare themselves in their inquiry. They steamed up the Aire and the Calder, and took samples of the black and turbid water, with the oily film upon its surface, and emitting the odour of sewage and gas tar. Here, however, a Wakefield manufacturer had been before them, and he produced to them the river's own testimony in the form of a memorandum, written in what would pass as pale ink:—"Dedicated without permission to the Local Board of Health, Wakefield, this memorandum written with water taken from the point of junction between the River Calder and the town's sewer. Could the odour accompany this sheet also it would add much to the interest of this memorandum." The Commissioners give a facsimile of the memorandum; the odour is left at Wakefield, but may be imagined with the help of some evidence taken by the Commissioners. A woolcomber at a place bearing the appropriate name of Aireworth told them that the Worth, below Keighley, is so polluted by town sewage and refuse from factories and works that in the summer the smell is perceptible more than half a mile off. The Commissioners are able to state positively that the enforcement of the standard of purity which they propose would inflict no serious injury upon industrial processes and manufactures, nor would the remedies required involve any risk to the public health.

PROGRESS OF THE NATION.—Mr. Lowe, in his speech the other night on the subject of the National Debt, did the country good service by placing before it in a compendious form and on unimpeachable authority the statistics of its own prosperity. He goes back forty-five years, and compares our position in 1825 with our position in 1870, by means of figures which it is absolutely impossible either to dispute or to misunderstand. In 1825 we were twenty-two millions of people; and we are now nearly thirty-two millions. At the former period we owed £800,000,000, and paid £30,000,000 a year as interest on the debt; we now owe only £737,000,000, and we pay for interest only £26,826,000. It is clear, therefore, that while our burden is less our capabilities of bearing it are greater. The actual increase of our wealth may be measured, first, by our trade, and then by the returns of taxation. For our trade it suffices to observe that in 1825 our imports were £37,000,000, and our exports £58,000,000, whereas they are now respectively £303,000,000 and £244,000,000. But did all this trade leave a profit? Let the following figures reply. The produce of a penny in the pound income tax was £867,000 in 1850; it is £1,500,000 at the present time. The house tax yielded £737,000 in 1852; it now yields £1,129,000. Take, again, the evidence of means as shown by the scale of consumption in certain particulars. The 22,000,000 people of 1825 drank barely 9,000,000 barrels of beer in the twelve months; our 32,000,000 now living drink all but 26,000,000 barrels. In fact, according to Mr. Lowe, every man, woman, and child in the kingdom consumes nearly a barrel of beer in the year. The consumption of spirits has increased also, though we are happy to say, in nothing like the same proportion; but, whereas 16,000,000 lb. of tobacco sufficed for us in 1825, as many as 41,000,000 lb. are wanted now. By every kind of measure, therefore, and on every principle of calculation, the growth of our prosperity is established. Mr. Lowe's immediate object was to prove that we were more able to pay off debt now than formerly; and of that there cannot be a doubt. We are more in number, we have more money to pay our taxes with, and we are less heavily taxed. A more authentic or comprehensive view of our financial position could not be given.

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